THE RULING CHIEFS NOBLES & ZAMINDARS OF INDIA

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BY

A. VADIVELU,

LATE SUB-EDITOR, "THE EVENING MAIL,"

AUTHOR OF

"SOME MYSORE WORTHIES," "TWO WORTHIES OF SOUTHERN INDIA,"

AND

"THE ARISTOCRACY OF SOUTHERN INDIA," VOLS. I AND II.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

MR. V. P. MADHAVA RAO, C.I.E.,

D DEWAN OF TRAVANCORE AND MYSORE, AND NOW DEWAN OF BARODA.

VOL. I.

G. C. LOGANADHAM BROS.

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TO

HIS HIGHNESS ASAF JAH, MUZAFFAR-UL-MULK WAL MUMALIK, RUSTAM-I-DAURAN, ARASTU-I-ZAMAN, NIZAM-UL-MULK, NIZAM-UD-DAULAH, NAWAB

MIR SIR USMAN ALI KHAN BAHADUR,

FATEH JUNG, G.C.S.I.,

THE NIZAM OF HYDERABAD,

THIS BOOK

IS, BY SPECIAL PERMISSION,

RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

BY

A. VADIVELU,

THE AUTHOR.

PREFACE.

THIS book, giving compact accounts of all the leading Ruling Chiefs and the principal Nobles and Zamindars of India, was begun a little before the last Delhi Durbar, but the task was delayed in execution owing to several impediments of a personal and domestic nature. The inevitable delay thus caused has, however, enabled me to collect more detailed information and to re-arrange and revise the accounts already prepared. In presenting these great personages to the reading public in a form that will evoke their admiration and regard for the subjects of these memoirs, one aim has always been kept in view: the inculcation of regard and reverence for the hereditary nobility and for the intellectual aristocracy of this ancient land, and the consequent promotion of a spirit of genuine loyalty and whole-hearted devotion to the person of the sovereign. There is no gainsaying the fact that all the Ruling Chiefs, Nobles, and Zamindars of India, who figure in this volume, have been a great moral force in the right shaping of the recent events in this country and in promoting the harmony between the rulers and the ruled.

As no regular and connected history of all the leading Ruling Chiefs and the principal Aristocracy of this country has ever been published in any language, this work will at least possess the merit of novelty. During my long connection with the defunct *Evening Mail* in Bangalore as Sub-Editor, and while engaged in collecting materials for my former works, the noble characteristics and the heroic deeds of the various ancient Ruling Chiefs and Noblemen and of their immediate descendants naturally arrested my attention. While travelling on several occasions in different parts of India,

the need for a book of the kind pressed strongly on my mind. What is now presented to the reader, is a faithful and consistent picture of the times, characters, and events, entirely free from all disquisitions on controversial questions, howsoever tempting.

This book might have come out two years ago had not some of the Ruling Chiefs and others taken their own time to return the proofs forwarded to them for approval, despite reminders by post and by telegram. Notwithstanding the long delay, a few occupants of the *gadi* did not furnish the information wanted about them, and this deficiency is, therefore, much regretted.

The first four of the Ruling Chiefs that herald this volume are given in the Government order of precedence, and for the rest the salute of guns to which they are entitled has determined their place in its pages.

Brief sketches of distinguished personages in the States and elsewhere have been added to enhance the value of the work as a book of reference, and any unwitting omissions will be supplied in the next edition if the kind readers of this volume draw my attention to them.

I cannot sufficiently thank such of the Ruling Chiefs and their Ministers as are my friends for the quick despatch of the proofs sent to them for approval, and for the promptitude with which they obliged me with the materials necessary for the preparation of the accounts of their respective Durbars.

Should my present venture meet with a favourable acceptance, I hope to bring out a second edition of the book, considerably enlarged and arranged in the best and most approved form.

I am highly indebted to Mr. V. P. Madhava Rao, C. I. E., Dewan of Baroda, for his very valuable introduction to this book.

In conclusion, my thanks are due to Mr. G. C. Nataraja Mudaliyar, the junior Proprietor of the *Guardian Press*, for the special care he took in seeing this work through the press.

NUNGUMBAUKAM,
MADRAS, S. W.,
October 1916.

A. VADIVELU.

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INTRODUCTION.

INDIA resembles a vast museum in which is found a large variety of human types in different stages of civilisation. What are generally known as the Native States attract our attention mainly by the elements of the picturesque which they supply in great profusion. They are not, however, without interest to the serious student engaged in the study of the deeper problems of Indian Administration. The task of introducing a publication dealing primarily with Native Rulers and their administrative achievements is one which gives me a profound degree of pleasure; and this feeling is enhanced by the thought that the best years of my life were given to the work of directing the affairs of the two leading Native States in Southern India and that I now find myself holding the position of Chief Minister in what is fittingly spoken of as *the Model Native State* in India. It is highly gratifying to me, therefore, that the author of this book should have asked me to write a foreword by way of introduction.

I knew Mr. Vadivelu while he was on the staff of the *Evening Mail* of Bangalore. As Sub-Editor he rapidly rose in the esteem of his Chief, and his articles on "Indian Social Reform" won high praise from no less a personage than the late Mr. Justice Ranade both for their vigour of thought and elegance of diction. His book on the *Aristocracy of Southern India* is a mine of information regarding the great families that played a prominent

part in the political struggles of the centuries preceding the British Rule in that part of the country. He is a grandson of the late Mr. Amirthalingam Mudaliyar who held the high office of Postmaster-General in Mysore. He is also related to prominent landholders in Chingleput in the Madras Presidency. By birth, training and experience, therefore, he is certainly well qualified to write on the subject which forms the theme of his work.

It must be readily conceded that, in furnishing a mass of valuable information regarding the scions of the Nobility of India, Mr. Vadivelu has supplied a long-felt need in a very satisfactory manner. For some reason or other, the onward march of Indian progress has gone on till now without much concern as to what happened in those mysterious yellow patches that relieve the crimson map of India. To the stranger within their gates, who comes steeped in Western political ideas and in the traditions of Anglo-Saxon efficiency, the Native States, with their irresponsiveness to the trumpet call of progress, their mediæval methods of Government, and their palace and party intrigues, are often a sealed book, intelligible only to the initiated. With the passing of the years, however, changes must come and the old order must give place to the new. The Aristocracy of India is being gradually brought under the operation of the progressive influences of to-day. Amid the bewildering varieties of type and organisation, the *Pax Britannica* has held out lofty ideals of public duty and administrative efficiency towards which, as towards a common goal, all are marching in perfect harmony. The gospel of the strenuous life is being preached everywhere, and the picturesqueness and leisurely methods of the old court-life are gradually tending to disappear. It was to be expected that, in the march towards modernism, a few of the Indian Chiefs should have led the vanguard of progress with greater zeal than others. There are, of course, Princes who have entrenched themselves in the ancient fastnesses of conservatism and have zealously combated the incoming of the newer order. Between these two extremes, different stages of advance have been reached by those who are as keenly alive to the possibilities as to the limitations of their position

and who are striving, so far as their resources and environments permit, to follow the lead of those few, who, like the enlightened Prince whom I now have the privilege of serving, are the torch-bearers of civilisation in the dark places of the earth.

The triumphs of Democracy in the West have profoundly influenced Indian public life, and it is inevitable that democratic ideas should gradually find their way into Native States. The problem which the Rulers of Native States are called upon to solve is how to enable their subjects to assimilate the new spirit and to work in the direction of constitutional Government without altogether breaking away with their past and without abandoning all that is conducive to stability in the existing forms of monarchical Government. If Baroda has been referred to above as *the Model State*, it is because of the remarkable experiment which is being tried there by its distinguished Ruler to maintain an equilibrium whenever the old order is in conflict with the new.

With the advent of modern progress, India no longer looks upon her Princes as effete survivals of a by-gone age, interesting only to the curious student of political science. Evidences are not wanting on all sides to show that there is a revived interest in the present condition and the future well-being of the Native States and their Rulers. The man who tells the story of their strivings and triumphs in the direction of peace and ordered progress, in a fascinating style, and emblazons their record in a kind of Golden Book of India, deserves well of his country for his public spirit and enterprise. Mr. Vadivelu's work is a production of this kind and has come, I think, none too soon.

There is no reason to doubt that, in the administration of Native States, there is abundant scope for organizing the forces of progress and for the best Indian intelligence to find its fullest expression in the skilful handling of public questions that are pressing for solution—questions on whose right solution depends so much that is of vital importance to the well-being of the races that inhabit these more or less autonomous tracts. The fact that

Mr. Vadivelu's book contains not only biographical sketches of Indian Princes and the leading members of the landed aristocracy, but also accounts of selected groups of officers and public-spirited men who are actively engaged in the work of constructive statesmanship in the service of various Native States, is a point that considerably enhances the merits of the publication. I have much pleasure in commending the book to the attention of readers in India and elsewhere.

OOTACAMUND,
21*st June* 1915.

V. P. MADHAVA RAO,
Dewan, Baroda State.

THE DELHI DURBAR AND AFTER.

THE historic function, or rather the festival with which the Indians have become familiar now, connected with the Royal installation, was formerly known as the Delhi Durbar, and has, since 1911, taken the name of the Coronation Durbar. To describe this great event of pomp and splendour within the space at our disposal, is hardly possible. The mere enumeration of the names of the royal guests would fill a volume; the description of the canvas city another; and the numerous functions and the military display a third, and so on. We can on this occasion only content ourselves with referring to it as a unique occurrence, unparalleled in the annals of India, ancient and modern; and it will not be surprising if some day in the future an Indian poet of repute makes it a theme for a mighty epic in his mother tongue or in the language of the far-off western isle which has become more or less our own, and gives vivid and graphic accounts in verse of the galaxy of Indian Rulers, Nobles and Zamindars, described in this volume, whose presence on the significant occasion contributed, in no small measure, to the grand success of the brilliant celebration.

India, it has been said, had evolved and perfected in ages long gone by a model civilization, faultless in all its details and based upon the essential constitution of man in relation to his origin, development, and destiny. Early historians have held that it was originally an ideal type of spiritual democracy, but wrought into elaborate, and unwelcome details in the light of a new social institution. The excrescences, it would appear, came to be made much

of and ill-used, and the civilization which was destined to spread a genuine spiritual influence lost its ground. With this decadence began social disruptions, sectarian differences and suicidal wars, and the land became a prey to foreign invasions. Various nations from the West and the North stalked through the land intent on plunder or conquest; but the genius to take the vastly scattered and heterogeneous units together and weld them into a great people was wanting in them all. The servants of the East India Company had hardly undertaken the task when troubles arose again, and by a happy turn of Providence the Government of the country once for all passed into the hands of a ruler, the wisest and noblest that has ever appeared on the face of the Western world—Victoria the Good. A few years after this transference, Her Majesty assumed the title of the Empress of India, when we witnessed the first Durbar, the Imperial Assemblage; and the second Durbar was held in 1903, when her illustrious son became Emperor of India. But the third celebration has outshone its predecessors and come to be most reverently and affectionately cherished by the Indians as a whole for more reasons than one. His Most Gracious Majesty the King Emperor himself chose to be here in person with his royal consort to go through the sacred and imposing ceremony of the Coronation and to honour the Princes, Nobles, and people of India with his gracious and personal audience. The capital of the Empire is no longer Calcutta—a city formerly chosen by a trading company for purposes more suited to their activities, but Delhi, the name of which sounds sweetest in the ears of Hindus and Moslems alike, and which is associated with a thousand memories of historic and sacred antiquity, and has drawn the hearts of the multitudinous races of this hoary land closer to the throne of Great Britain.

To the Indian, loyalty runs in his blood. He loves his country, his God, and his King. He cannot but obey the King, whoever he be. First and foremost he renders unto Cæsar what is Cæsar's.

Because Empress Victoria ruled, her son bore sway after her, and to-day His Most Gracious Majesty, her grandson, holds the sceptre over India, the Indian firmly believes as a necessary article

of faith that this dynasty has exceptionally good virtues. He actually sees ample proofs of them and gets daily strengthened in his belief. The Rulers of England have been upholders of justice, righteousness, and fair play, and the present occupant of the throne faithfully abides by the traditions of his forbears. Is it possible for such a benevolent Ruler to remain for any length of time without being personally introduced to his beloved Indian Princes and Subjects in their own country? The Durbar at Delhi proved a suitable occasion, and to their intense joy and satisfaction, the people of India had Their Most Gracious Majesties King George V and Queen Mary in their midst as incarnations of sympathy and love.

The Imperial Coronation at Delhi has begun to bear good fruit. In the cataclysmic European war in which Great Britain is now seriously engaged, the Indian lords and liegemen have taken their place side by side with the Britishers and their Allies, and the Colonials, and cheerfully and heroically give up their lives on behalf of their righteous sovereign, not to speak of the enormous sacrifices they are making of their substance and all that they have in the vindication of his noble cause.

The Indians of to-day have the confidence that, so long as Providence pleases to place them under the guidance and control of Great Britain, whose watchword is ordered liberty, and whose greatest merits are the protection of the weak and the oppressed, the fulfilment of her pledges, and the uplifting of each nation, small or backward, to its full stature, their safety is insured, their prosperity assured, and their political progress ensured.

"For know that far thy fame has reached, and men
That ne'er have seen thee tell that thou art set
Upon the throne of virtue, that good-will and love
Thy servants are, that in thy land
Joy, honour, trust and modesty abide
And drink the air of peace, that kings must see
Thy city, would they know their peoples' good
And 'stablish them therein by wholesome laws.".

Robert Brydges.

ADDENDA

Page 149. *Insert the following as the sixth paragraph:—*

On the 1st January 1913, His Highness the Nawab of Tonk was created a G. C. S. I.

Page 232g. *Insert the following as the fourth paragraph:—*

The day after the appeal for the Punjab aeroplane fleet appeared in the press, H. H. the Maharajah of Jind telegraphed offering Government an armoured aeroplane for service at the front. The Maharajah was, therefore, the first in the province to make such an offer. The Government of India have gratefully accepted this generous gift, and it has been decided with the assent of His Highness to attach the aeroplane to the fleet which Punjab is presenting. It will be called "Jind Aeroplane."

The distinction of G. C. I. E. was conferred upon His Highness the Maharajah of Jind on the 1st January 1916.

Page 232j. *Insert the following as the third paragraph:—*

In November 1915, the wedding of the youngest daughter of H. H. the Rajah of Chamba with H. H. Prince Shri Hari Singhji, the heir-apparent to the Kashmir *gadi*, was celebrated with great *eclat* at Chamba.

Page 319. *Insert the following after Chief in the first line of the fourth paragraph:—*

the youngest brother of Bakhtawar Singh,

Page 488e *Insert the following as the last paragraph:—*

The Maharajah of Jeypore who, by his handsome donation of a lakh of rupees, was one of the first supporters of the Madras War Fund and was also a monthly subscriber of Rs. 1,000 for the monthly upkeep of the Hospital Ship, "Madras", has generously made a further contribution by offering through H. E. the Governor for the acceptance of His Majesty the King-Emperor a sum of Rs. 22,500 for the purchase of a fully equipped aeroplane for use at the front. His Excellency who communicated this offer to His Majesty has received the following telegram from Lord Stamfordham, Private Secretary to the King-Emperor. "The King accepts with gratitude the Maharajah of Jeypore's most generous gift of Rs. 22,500 to provide an aeroplane and will be glad if you carry out the details." His Excellency the Governor is now in communication with the military authorities as to the purchase of the machine and its despatch to the front. The Maharajah has raised his monthly subscription towards the upkeep of the Hospital Ship, "Madras," to rupees two thousand from January 1916.

Page 491. *Insert the following as the last paragraph:—*

The well-merited distinction of G. C. I. E. was conferred upon the Maharajah of Venkatagiri on the 1st January 1915. He had been paying Rs. 500 monthly for the Madras Hospital Ship till the end of October 1915 and raised it to Rs. 1,000 from the month of November. He paid the munificent sum of three lakhs of rupees for the Madras War Fund, Rs. 1,500 for the Prince of Wales Fund, Rs. 3,000 for the Viceroy's Imperial War Relief Fund, Rs. 500 for Lady Pentland Fund, Rs. 1,515 for Sir John Heelar's Fund, Rs. 15,000 for two Ambulance Motors, and Rs. 100 for the Madras Aeroplane.

Page 507. *Insert the following as the last paragraph:—*

Among the conferees of the Birthday Honours in June 1915, the Maharajah of Darbhanga won the distinction of G. C. I. E.

Page 571. Insert the following as the last paragraph:—

The Rajah of Ramnad who, by his liberal donation of Rs. 20,000, was one of the early supporters of the Madras War Fund and is now a monthly subscriber of Rs. 250 for the upkeep of the Hospital Ship, "Madras," has generously made a further contribution by offering to His Excellency the Governor of Madras for the acceptance of the King-Emperor a sum of Rs. 22,500 for the purchase of a fully equipped aeroplane for use at the front. His Excellency, who communicated this offer to His Majesty, has received the following telegram from Lord Stamfordham, Private Secretary to the King-Emperor :—"His Majesty accepts with pleasure the generous gift of the Rajah of Ramnad and approves of your carrying out the details." His Excellency the Governor of Madras is now in communication with the military authorities as to the purchase of the machine and its despatch to the front.

Page 581. Insert the following after tenantry in the sixth line of the first paragraph :—

The well-merited distinction of *Rao Bahadur* was conferred upon Sri M. C. Krishna Varma Rajah on the 1st January 1916.

Page 624. Insert the following as the last paragraph:—

The Moopil Nair of Kavalappara was elected Member of the Madras Legislative Council on the 8th February 1915 in the place of the late Hon'ble Mr. V. Kunhiraman Nayanar.

Page 641. Insert the following as the second paragraph:—

Babu Shyam Das was presented with a Durbar Medal by Mr. Molony, the Commissioner of the Benares Division, on the 29th April 1912, at the garden party given by Mr. C. A. C. Streatfield, the Magistrate of Benares.

Page 688. Insert the following as the last paragraph :—

When the Zamindar of Vadagarai attended the meeting of the Telugu Academy held at Bellary in April 1915, under the chairmanship of the Rajah of Anagondi, the representative of the defunct Vijianagar Ruling House, he undertook, on behalf of the Academy, to defray the cost of the publication of the valuable work, called *Jaimini Bharatam*, in Telugu prose, written by his relation, *Samugam* Venkata Krishnappa Naick, who flourished as a court poet in the reign of Vijaya Ranga Chockanadha Naick, the Ruler of Madura, from 1704 to 1731.

The Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur V. Rama Bhadra Naick has endowed Rs. 1,500 to the University of Madras for the purpose of founding a gold medal to be awarded annually to the candidate who obtains the highest number of marks in the final M. B. and B. S. Degree Examination. The medal is to be called "The Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur V. Ramabhadra Naidu Gold Medal."

Page 748. Insert the following after Collector in the eighth line of the second paragraph :—

The well-merited distinction of *Rao Bahadur* was conferred upon Mr. Krishnaji Balvant Moghe on the 1st January 1916.

Page 753. Insert the following after 1909 in the sixth line of the first paragraph:—

The distinction of K. C. S. I. was conferred upon Maharaj Sri Bhairun Singhji Bahadur on the 1st January 1916.

Page 771 Insert the following as the last paragraph :—

The well-merited distinction of *Rai Bahadur* was conferred upon Pandit Rajkishen Koul on the 1st January 1916.



H. H. THE LATE NAWAB MIR SIR MAHBUB ALI KHAN BAHADUR,
G.C.S.I., G.C.B.,
THE NIZAM OF HYDERABAD

THE RULING CHIEFS, NOBLES

AND

ZAMINDARS OF INDIA

HIS HIGHNESS NAWAB MIR SIR USMAN ALI KHAN BAHADUR, G. C. S. I., THE NIZAM OF HYDERABAD

HIS Highness Nawab Mir Sir Usman Ali Khan Bahadur, G. C. S. I., the Nizam of Hyderabad, is the Premier Prince of the Indian Empire. The Dominions of the Nizam cover a rich and wide tract of country, with an area of nearly 83,000 square miles. They are about three times the size of Mysore, the next largest Protected State. Their favorable situation in the Deccan, their abundant natural and commercial resources, their teeming population, their fertile soil, their vast mineral wealth, their great rivers and extensive forests, their ancient history and famous sovereigns, and their possession of all the advantages that nature, art, and civilization could bestow on any country, have gained for them a unique importance and for their ruler a power and influence which many Crowned Heads of Europe might well envy. His Highness bears sway over nearly thirteen millions of people and is the master of an annual revenue of about five crores of rupees. He is the first of all the loyal friends, allies and admirers of the British Empire in the East. It is but in the fitness of things that His Highness should enjoy the special friendship and confidence of His Majesty the King-Emperor.

The Dominions of the Nizam lie between the Tapti on the north and the Tungabhadra and the Krishna on the south. The Wardha and the Godavari demarcate them on the east, while on the west they are fringed by the Districts of Dharvar, Kaladgi, Sholapur and Ahmednagar in the Bombay Presidency. They constitute what is known as the Deccan plateau, about 1,800 feet above the sea-level. They form the meeting point of several languages—Telugu, Canarese,and Mahratti, the first being the most predominant. Urdu is, of course, the tongue of the rulers, while here and there are found large sprinklings of the Tamil, Bengali and Rajput settlers. The chief mountain ranges are Balaghat, Sahiadri-

parvat, Gaivalagarh, Jalna, Yamnigarh, Kandikalgutta and Rakhigutta. The principal rivers are the Godavari, the Krishna, the Tungabhadra, the Purna, the Painganga, the Manjira, the Maner, the Bhima, the Musi, and the Munair, with many minor streams and rivulets. There are a number of lakes and tanks for purposes of irrigation. The forests of the Telingana country are rich and superb, yielding a large revenue to the State. The climate is most agreeable without the extreme cold of the northern regions and the burning heat of the south. The rainfall is fair, the territories being exposed to the influence of both the monsoons, and the annual average is about thirty-two inches. There is abundance of mineral wealth in the Province, and mining companies have been floated and are working, as the Hutti Gold Mines Company and the Hyderabad (Deccan) Company, controlling the Yellondu collieries. In the matter of mining industry, it is believed that the Principality has a great future before it. The reader will be reminded of the historic diamond mines of Golconda, which are now unworked. Coal is dug at Yellondu and Singareni, and there are gold fields near Raichur at Hutti and Wondali. In respect of religion nearly 90 per cent. of the people are Hindus, and the remainder, as may naturally be expected, Mahomedans.

In a country like India which has passed through so many political revolutions, it is not likely that the tracts, as a whole, now known as the Nizam's Dominions, could have remained long intact under one and the same dynasty of rulers. But the tradition that the southern confines of the Deccan are commemorated in the Ramayana gains credence from the topographical similarity of the accounts given in the great epic, and is further confirmed by the archæological remains and the folk-lore tales of these regions. But passing by all the puranic and mythical ages, we find that in the historical times the Deccan came under Buddhistic influence in the regime of the great King Asoka. The next in importance to him were the Satakarnis or Andhrabrityas, at the beginning of the Christian era. The Kshatraps, the Guptas, the Valabhis, the Chalukyas, the Hoysalas, and the Yadhavas ruled in succession till the appearance of the Mahomedans in the political arena towards the close of the thirteenth century.

In the days of Alauddin and his General, Malik Kafur, a large part of the Deccan was tributary to Delhi ; and the wars that brought about these changes were not without their interesting episodes of romance and chivalry. When the Vijianagar and Bahmini kingdoms became prominent, the major portion of the Hyderabad territories seems to have been under the control of the latter. After the disintegration of the Bahmini Raj, the Golconda dynasty held sway over them until their final subjugation about the end of the seventeenth century by Aurangzeb, pro-

badly the only Delhi Emperor who might be said to have held direct sovereignty over the Deccan. In the time of his degenerate successors, the Dominions of Hyderabad were placed under a Subahdar, the greatest of whom was the well-known Nizam-ul-Mulk, the ancestor of the Nizams, from whom the present young and promising ruler is the tenth in descent.

The family of the Nizams is probably the most ancient and illustrious in the whole Mahomedan world, and traces its genealogy on the male side from the first Khalifah, Abu Bakr, the successor of the Prophet of Arabia, and, in the female line, from the Prophet himself. One of their descendants, Nawab Abid Kuli Khan, who was the Khazi of Bukhara, came to India in the service of the Emperor, Shah Jahan. In 1660 he was made a Minister, and six years later he became Silladar of Ajmer. His advancement was so rapid that in 1681 he was appointed Chief Minister of Aurangzeb. He took part in the seige of Golconda and was mortally wounded there. His tomb is at Asafnagar. All his honours and emoluments were bestowed on his son, Shahab-ud-din Ghazi-ud-din Khan Firoz Jung, who proved the greatest of the Generals of Aurangzeb. After a remarkably successful career, he died about 1710 at Ahmedabad. He lies buried at the Ajmer gate of the Delhi City. "A nobleman of such rank and power and yet so gentle and pleasant-spoken has rarely been seen or heard of among the men of Turan." His son, Mir Kamruddin, the future Nizam-ul-Mulk, born in 1671, succeeded to his father's titles. When he was just nineteen, Aurangzeb conferred on him the distinction of *Chin Kalich Khan*. He greatly distinguished himself in several wars, receiving marks of honour and valuable presents from the Emperor. After Aurangzeb's death, he became disgusted with the court intrigues at Delhi and retired to Aurangabad. During Bahadur Shah's time, he was invited and made Subahdar of Oudh and Fauzdar of Lucknow. Very soon he resigned his place and remained in retirement until the death of the Emperor. Once again he held office under Jahandar Shah and immediately after the accession of Faruksiyar, he was installed Subahdar of the Deccan and bore the title of *Nizam-ul-Mulk Bahadur Fateh Jung*. His days were very stormy : they were mostly spent in checkmating the secret plots at the Court of Delhi, in keeping back the Mahrattas from the Deccan, in settling the affairs of the Carnatic, and in maintaining order and tranquillity with great vigilance and resoluteness. At one time the Saiyids, the King-Makers as they were called, gave the Emperors a deal of trouble, and it was through the efforts of Nizam-ul-Mulk that they were relieved of it. His services were required everywhere and in every place of disorder, and as the one strong man of the day, his very presence was enough to restore peace. But differences soon arose between him and the Emperor through the evil-schemings of courtiers, and he

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withdrew to his Subahdarship of the Deccan. It was then a time of internal quarrel and external invasion. Nadir Shah sacked Delhi in 1738. The Mahrattas were giving trouble in the west and south. His own son, Nasir Jung, rebelled, and everything went wrong. However, undaunted, he withstood them all, and maintained the independence of the whole of the Deccan intact, with the Nawab of the Carnatic as his subordinate. When Ahmed Shah Abdulla Durani invaded India, Nizam-ul-Mulk was marked out as a General fit to oppose him, but he died, at the ripe age of seventy-nine, at Burhanpur on the 19th June 1748.

The death of Nizam-ul-Mulk was the cause of a protracted civil war in the Deccan among the many claimants for the vacant throne. Nasir Jung, a son of Nizam-ul-Mulk, who had incurred the displeasure of his father, became the Nizam in spite of the fact that Nizam-ul-Mulk himself had wanted that Muzaffar Jung, his grandson, should succeed him. But Nasir Jung was soon murdered, and with the assistance of the French, Muzaffar Jung was appointed the Nizam. He too was killed in an affray on his way back to Hyderabad from Pondicherry, and Salabat Jung, a brother of Nasir Jung, was raised to the *musnad*. The French played a prominent part in all the struggles, but with the dissolution of their supremacy in India after the recall of Count de Lally, the English influence became dominant at the Court of the Nizam. In the meanwhile clouds were gathering in the Maharashtra; Hyder Ali was rising to power in Mysore; and domestic intrigue was not wanting in Hyderabad. According to the policy of the time, the English were unable to enter deep into the internal affairs of these States. Salabat Jung, dethroned by his brother, Nizam Ali Khan, the next Nizam, died soon after his deposition. Peace was concluded with the Mahrattas, and Nizam Ali was well established in Hyderabad. After the disappearance of the French from the Circars, the Honourable East India Company obtained a grant of these tracts from the Emperor of Delhi. The Nizam, however, looked upon them as portions of his Dominions. This brought him into conflict with the Company, which was amicably settled in 1766. By virtue of the settlement, they were to retain the Circars, paying an annual tribute of seven lakhs, and to station a contingent of British troops near Hyderabad for their assistance in everything that was right and proper. This, it would seem, was the nucleus of the subsidiary force located there.

The days of Nizam Ali Khan and those of his son, Sikandar Jah, with Mir Alam, as his Minister, were troublous, and the struggle for political supremacy was the keenest among the Mahrattas, the English and Tippu. By the end of the eighteenth century, Mysore and South India were brought under British control; the Mahrattas were all but subdued; and the

British power became firmly established. In all these troubles, the policy and allegiance of the Nizam counted a great deal. At one time the French influence was the greatest about the Nizam's Court. It was so great that even the Company's subsidiary force had to be recalled. To Mir Alam the large tank called after him owes its existence. The account runs that he obtained eight lakhs as prize-money for the heroic part he played in storming the fort of Seringapatam. This sum he expended partly in constructing the tank and partly in laying out a trunk road on the Masulipatam route. Mir Alam passed away in 1808, and his son-in-law, Mukaram-ul-Mulk, was appointed Minister, with Rajah Chandu Lal as Peishkar. The Peishkar, who subsequently became Minister, resigned his office, and his place was filled first by Suraj-ul-Mulk, grandson of Mir Alam, and later by Nawab Salar Jung. Nasir-ud-Daulah ascended the *musnad* in 1829 and continued to rule until 1857. In his days the relations between the English and his Durbar improved, but there were some serious internal quarrels and religious disturbances in Hyderabad. When they were put down, the Berars were assigned to the British for the maintenance of the Hyderabad contingent. These districts were finally leased in perpetuity to the Supreme Government in 1902 for an annual payment of twenty-five lakhs.

In 1853 the great Sir Salar Jung was installed Prime Minister. On the death of His Highness Nasir-ud-Daulah in 1857, his son, Afzul-ud-Daulah, was placed on the throne. The Mutiny broke out the same year, when, in spite of seditious activities in Hyderabad, the counsel of Sir Salar Jung prevailed, and the Nizam remained firm in his loyalty to the Paramount Power. In recognition of this friendly attitude, rich presents were bestowed on the Nizam and his Ministers in 1861. His Highness Nawab Afzul-ud-Daulah passed away in 1869, and his infant son, Prince Mir Mahbub Ali Khan Bahadur, hardly thirty months old, succeeded him, with Nawab Salar Jung and Nawab Shams-ul-Umara as co-regents.

For the education of the Prince, Captain John Clerk, Equerry to H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh, was selected after much thought and deliberation, and he entered upon his duties in 1875. But that gentleman gave up his appointment the next year, owing to some domestic calamity, and he was succeeded by his brother, Captain Claude Clerk, in November 1876. His Highness had an all-round training under him and his successors, who were great educationists. The young Nizám soon became proficient, in Persian, Hindustani, and Arabic, and attained a fair knowledge of English. He took a keen interest in all manly sports and practised riding, shooting, tent-pegging and cricket.

During the minority of His Highness Mir Mahbub Ali Khan

Bahadur, the State had the rare fortune of being administered by that great statesman, His Excellency Sir Salar Jung, who was the Chief Minister for an unbroken period of about thirty years. He was undoubtedly the maker, and, in a sense, the saviour of modern Hyderabad. It is scarcely possible to exaggerate his great services to the country, nor can the family of the Nizam and the people of Hyderabad be sufficiently grateful to him. Things might have gone wrong with the Province but for his presence and advice in the trying days of the Mutiny. He knew his duty both to the Nizam and to the Paramount Power. He was no visionary but a practical statesman, and he understood the forces about him in their proper perspective. The result was that he gave sound advice at critical junctures and steered the State through several difficulties. After the death of the grandfather of the present Nizam in 1869, Sir Salar Jung as Regent became practically the ruler of the Dominions and rendered signal services to them during his life-time. The Government of India had the utmost confidence in him. In January 1871 he was made a G. C. S. I. The honor of a personal salute of seven guns was also conferred on him. When His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales (afterwards King-Emperor Edward VII) visited India in 1875, he represented the Nizam at the reception given him in Bombay and was awarded a sword with a silver scabbard, the belt being studded with jewels, a massive gold ring, and a large gold medal with the medallion of the Prince on one side and three ostrich feathers on the other, besides three large books bound in morocco. He was also the recipient of suitable presents for the young Nizam as well, who, under medical advice, could not be present. In 1876 he paid a visit to England and met with the most enthusiastic welcome. He returned in August of that year and accompanied the Prince to the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi held on the 1st January 1877. From 1881 to the time of his death, His Excellency remained the sole Regent and Administrator of Hyderabad. He was about to proceed to England again in 1883, with the Nizam, but unfortunately after all arrangements had been made and even passages booked for His Highness and suite, Sir Salar Jung took ill and passed away on the 8th February 1883. The projected tour was, therefore, abandoned, and there was mourning all over the Empire. Condolences poured in from every side, from the Queen and the Viceroy down to every village association.

After Sir Salar Jung's death, until His Highness attained majority, a Council of Regency, composed of His Highness himself as President, and Rajah Narindar Pershad, Nawab Bashir-ud-Daulah, Nawab Shamsul-

Umara as Members, and Mir Laikh Ali Khan Bahadur (Nawab Sir Sala Jung II) as Secretary, carried on the administration.

On His Highness's coming of age, he was invested with full administra tive powers on the 5th February 1884 by His Excellency Lord Ripon In a speech becoming the solemn occasion, and characteristic of th Viceroy who has left an imperishable name behind him as a just an sympathetic ruler, he gave wholesome counsel to His Highness, whicl will bear quotation :—

If you would make for yourself a name among the princes of India, yo can only win it, in the days in which we live, by the justice of your governmen and the acknowledged prosperity of your people. The people's loyalty t your House and to yourself is manifest and unquestioned. It rests with yo to preserve it and, as years go on, to deepen it into the most precious posses sion of a ruler—the unfeigned love of his subjects. The care of those subject has not been entrusted to you by God that you may make them the instrumen of your pleasure or your pride. He has given them into your care that yo may rule and guide them for His glory and their welfare. In their well-bein you will find your truest happiness and in their contentment your best security Set before you no lesser aim, and be satisfied with no meaner game, but, as yo look back over the roll of your ancestors and recall the annals of your house let it be your ambition that, when you too shall be gathered to your fathers, me shall say of you—' He left his people the better for his rule'.

These ideals were cherished by His Highness all through his life, an he avowed them more than once in his speeches. The proclamation which he issued at the time of his accession to the *musnad*, and which we give below, amply shows to the world that His Highness was not wanting in the qualities that make a broad-minded statesman :—

Nothing will afford me greater pleasure than to see my people living in peace and prosperity, engaged in the development of their sources of wealth, in the acquisition of knowledge and the cultivation of arts and sciences, so that by their efforts the country may rise to a high state of enlightenment and the State derive benefit and support from their knowledge and intelligence. It is my earnest hope that the Minister and all the officers of the State, relying on my protection and support, will always be zealous in the promotion of good and the suppression of evil and will protect the rights of the people without fear or favour.

A Prince brought up under the traditions of Sir Salar Jung knew well the value of allegiance and attachment to the suzerain power, and on several occasions he freely offered his purse and the services of his sword when there was danger to the British Indian Empire. In 1885 he was ready to help the Supreme Government with his troops for service in Egypt. When there was the scare of Russia's advance on India in 1887 His Highness showed his loyalty in an open manner, by offer-

ing an annual grant of twenty lakhs of rupees for three years to defend the frontier. His Highness also informed the Government on this occasion that they could count upon his sword when necessary. Lord Dufferin, on behalf of himself and the Government of India, and Her Majesty and her Government at home, recognised the loyal offer in the most felicitous terms. After Lord Ripon, Lords Dufferin, Lansdowne, Elgin, Curzon, and Minto visited Hyderabad during their tenure of the Viceroyalty. The Nizam had the privilege also of entertaining distinguished royal guests, such as the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, the late Prince Albert Victor, the Czar of Russia, Prince Ferdinand of Austria, the Crown Prince of Denmark, the Crown Prince of Germany, and the present King-Emperor and Queen-Empress when, as Prince and Princess of Wales, they toured in India. His Highness assured the Paramount Power of his loyalty and co-operation during the recent political unrest.

The Nizam was the recipient of repeated marks of honour both from Queen Victoria who made him a G. C. S. I. in 1885, and from King Edward VII who created him a G. C. B. in 1903. His Highness held the honorary commission of Lieutenant-General in the British army. He was known to be an administrator of rare capacity and skill and was specially complimented on by Lord Minto in these terms :—

Much has happened since Your Highness assumed the reins of Government in 1884. The condition of affairs to which you succeeded was not free from difficulty, and I hope I may venture to congratulate Your Highness on the administrative development which you have done so much to perfect, and on the establishment of a financial equilibrium of which you may be justly proud.

The reply of His Highness was no less eulogistic and characteristic of the speaker :—

If Your Excellency will allow me to speak from my experience of twenty-three years as Ruler of this State, I would say that the *form* of any government is far less important than the *spirit* in which that government is administered. The essential thing is the sympathy on which His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, with the truly royal instinct of his race, recently laid so much stress. It is not sufficient merely that the rulers should be actuated by sympathy for their subjects, but it is also necessary that the people should feel convinced of the sympathy of their rulers.

Sir Salar Jung II was succeeded by Sir Asmanjah Bahadur who was Minister for six years, and he was followed by Sir Vikar-ul-Umara Bahadur. In 1901 Maharajah Sir Kishan Pershad, grandson of Rajah Naraindar Pershad Bahadur, was appointed Prime Minister.

His Highness introduced many reforms with marked success in the departments of Education, Sanitation, Police, Jail, Finance, Revenue and



H. H. NAWAB MIR SIR USMAN ALI KHAN BAHADUR, G C S.I.,
THE NIZAM OF HYDERABAD

Survey. Cotton-spinning, cloth and silk weaving, shawl-making and other industries received substantial encouragement. Lady doctors were employed for dispensing medical aid to the women of the Province, and schools established for the training of nurses. Foreign travel and liberal education were encouraged among the sons of noblemen in his Dominions, who were sent to England at the expense of the State.

His Highness had a sudden stroke of paralysis and passed away on the 29th August 1911, after a prosperous reign of twenty-seven years. Many were the expressions of grief and sympathy for the bereaved family received from all over India, when the news of the unexpected death of the Nizam flashed across the land. A Prince of great nobility of character, His Highness had won a secure place in the hearts of his people by his diverse acts of generosity and by his profound solicitude for their welfare. His love for his subjects was illustrated very powerfully during the recent floods at Hyderabad, when he was moved to tears at the sight of the devastation and ruin brought on his capital. As a ruler, he made strenuous endeavours to maintain peace and tranquillity within his Dominions, while he did everything he could to strengthen the bonds of friendship and affection that bound him to the Supreme Government.

In a durbar held on the 31st of August the British Resident conveyed the condolences of the Government of India to the present Nizam, Nawab Usman Ali Khan Bahadur, born on the 6th April 1886. His Excellency Lord Hardinge was present at Hyderabad on the 17th October 1911, when His Highness's speech and His Excellency's reply thereto were worthy of the occasion.

His Highness, among other things, observed:—

" I am at the threshold of my career as the Ruler of Hyderabad, and, therefore, all that I am able to say at present is that it is my highest ambition to be, in all respects, both to the Government of India and to my own people, what my late father was, a faithful friend on the one hand, and a beneficent Ruler on the other. I confidently trust that His Imperial Majesty as well as the people of my own country, will reciprocate my sentiments in the same spirit in which I entertain them."

Referring to His late Highness, His Excellency remarked:—

"........The sudden and unforeseen loss of Your Highness's father in the prime of his life came upon India with a great shock, and, though I did not myself have the honour and privilege of his personal acquaintance, I felt that by his unexpected death a pillar of the fabric of the State

had been abruptly removed, for it is no mere idle flattery to say that the late Nizam left behind him a reputation for liberality, loyalty, and sagacious statesmanship, which has not been advertised or published abroad, but is a matter of common knowledge to those who came into personal contact with him, and especially so to all who have been concerned with the Government of India..........."

His Highness came to the *musnad* under better auspices than his father. He had the benefit of parental control and guidance until he reached the years of discretion; his education was planned and supervised by his father. He had the advantage of moving in a highly cultured and refined society about the Court of Hyderabad; and at the time of his accession the Durbar was in the particularly fortunate position of being most friendly to the Paramount Power. In the administration of his own affairs, he was assisted by the long peace and prosperity that had attended the territories during his father's life-time, which gave him splendid opportunities for the introduction of many reforms, so that every branch of the State service has been thoroughly overhauled and brought into line with modern progressive ideas. He has, therefore, come upon a heritage, which falls to the lot of very few princes, as ruler of a rich and extensive country under the protective guidance of the suzerain power; and that he should use his talents with the greatest honour to himself and benefit to his numerous subjects, and secure the lasting good-will of the Government of India is the earnest prayer of every citizen of Hyderabad.

The young Nizam, who is an intimate friend of Colonel Pinhey, the British Resident, had the honour of being invited recently to Simla as a guest of His Excellency the Viceroy. Probably the wisest act, so far, of His Highness's reign is the taking over, for the purpose of efficient management, of the Paigahs of Sir Kurshad Jah, Sir Asman Jah and Sir Vikar-ul-Umara, which had fallen on evil days owing to sheer mismanagement. Sir Brian Egerton, K. C. I. E., was first appointed Director-General and then Controller-General of the Paigahs, when those estates were taken over, and now he is Sadar-ul-Maham of the Paigahs.

On the 11th July 1912, there was a change in the ministry. Maharajah Sir Kishan Pershad Bahadur, G. C. I. E., resigned his office of Prime Minister, and Nawab Salar Jung Bahadur III was appointed in his stead.

In 1908 terrible floods in Hyderabad did immense damage to property, within a few hours, to the extent of nearly three crores of rupees, and some thousands of lives were lost, and myriads were left homeless. With a view to ward off a similar calamity in the future, the services of an expert Engineer, Mr. M. Visvesvarayya (now Dewan of Mysore), were engaged to

advise and assist in the re-construction of Hyderabad." After a careful investigation, he propounded a scheme to dam the river Musi at Gundipet, and to provide the City of Hyderabad and the Cantonment of Secundarabad with pure water. It is said that the river in question drains nearly 300 square miles, and when dammed with a wall 125 feet high, it will be transformed into a placid lake having three or four times the area of the Hussain Sagar, and capable of holding ten times the quantity of water. A covered conduit twelve miles long will be constructed, and a pipe system for nearly half a million people will be introduced. On the 22nd March 1913—an epoch-making day in the annals of Hyderabad—His Highness the Nizam aid the foundation stone of the new reservoir, which, when completed, will, for purity, for copiousness, and for permanence, challenge comparison with that of any other town in India.

On the 2nd November 1914, the ministry of the Third Nawab Salar Jung Bahadur came to a termination. Since that period His Highness himself has been looking after the duties of the Minister in addition to his own. The Departmental Ministers have received somewhat large powers to facilitate the disposal of the work and obviate the necessity of petty matters going up to His Highness. There are four supreme Courts at Hyderabad to administer justice, the High Court, the Khazi's Court, the City Civil Court, and the City Criminal Court. Besides these Courts, there exists a well-trained and well-equipped judiciary in the mofussil. A total force of 10,000 police, with about 3,000 constables for the Hyderabad City, maintains peace and order in the Dominions, and there are five Central Jails and five District Jails in the State. Local administration is carried on by more than a hundred Local Boards and by Municipalities in all important towns, as Hyderabad, Chudderghat, etc. The military expenditure amounts to about seventy lakhs per annum, and the army consists of the Regular Troops, the Golconda Brigade, the Nizam Mahabub, and the Imperial Service Troops. Ample provision has been made for medical relief in ninety dispensaries in the Province and in a Zenana hospital at Hyderabad, the foundation stone of which was laid by His present Majesty when he visited that city as Prince of Wales in 1906. Three Unani Dispensaries, one Unani Medical School, and one English Medical School, are maintained at an annual cost of Rs. 22,000.

Great attention is paid to the important subject of education. The services of an experienced Government officer from Madras were recently secured for re-organizing this department and bringing up the public instruction in the State to the standards obtaining in the most progressive countries. Out of the two million children of the school-going age, only

100,000 attend schools. Instruction is imparted in over 2,500 educational institutions, 861 of which are public, and 683 are maintained by the Durbar. There are three Arts Colleges, fifteen High Schools and sixty-eight Middle Schools, and the rest are of the Primary Grade. In the matter of female education there seems to be room for improvement, but the defect cannot be attributed solely to the apathy of the State. Special and technical schools are also in existence ; and scholarships are provided for deserving students anxious to complete their education in England. There are several public libraries, the chief of them being the Asafia State Library. The Nizam's Government encourages original researches in Arabic language and literature ; for, in a country endowed with so many natural advantages and governed by several dynasties, there must necessarily be numerous rare and interesting remains, as temples, caves, forts, tombs, and inscriptions, worthy of the best attention of the antiquary and the unremitting labours of the archæologist.

There are four different kinds of land tenure, Khalsa, Sarf-i-Khas, Paigah, and Jaghir, or the Nizam's grants to Nobles and to individuals for services. About 750 miles of railway in all facilitate locomotion in the Dominions, and it is managed by the Nizam's Guaranteed State Railway Company. The Province has three spinning and weaving mills, fifty-five ginning and pressing factories, four oil mills, four ice factories, one rice mill, one flour mill, one tile factory, one sugar factory, and thirty factories of other kinds. In 1903 a new mint was constructed on a large scale. The chief coins are the ashrafies and their fractional parts in gold and the Char Minar rupee, now known as the Osmania Hali Sicca. The ashrafies are not designed for legal tender but serve for presentation or ornament.

During the four years His Highness the Nizam has been on the *gadi*, the State has improved immensely in every direction—in the extension of the railway, the damming of the Musi, the provision of the water-supply to Hyderabad and Secunderabad, the recruitment of a regular State Civil Service, the re-organisation of the Judicial and Medical Departments, the opening of the Agricultural Department, the establishment and growth of Co-operative Credit Societies, and the gigantic surplus, the outcome of efficient administration, has been profitably laid out. Twenty-five lakhs of rupees have been credited to the Coinage Reserve, which now stands at three crores, while the cash balance at the end of last year was ten crores and thirty-one lakhs, and the Government investment stood at over seven crores of rupees.

His Excellency Lord Hardinge, the Viceroy of India, was received in state and entertained on the 29th October 1913, and his speech at the State

Banquet was a warm appreciation of His Higness's earnest work and efficient administration. After glancing with complacency at the rigid observance by His Highness of the two principles of placing trust in his choice councillors, and taking personal interest in the matters of the State enumerated by His Excellency three years ago and also at the generous help rendered by the premier Chief of India to the afflicted humanity in the Turkish war and in the Palitana floods, and his princely donations to Lady Hardinge's Hospital and the Training School for Women at Delhi, His Excellency adverted to the many and various reforms effected in the State:—

Colonel Pinhey tells me of a contemplated expenditure of two and a half crores of rupees on the extension of your railway system which will give your people access to a new port and provide new markets for their produce, of the vast drainage and water supply scheme in connection with the Musi dam, of reforms in the police and educational departments, of the extension of the Co-operative credit system, one of the greatest boons that could be conferred on the indebted cultivator, of the institution of a trained Civil Service, of generous measures of famine relief, and of the improved administration and control of the three great Paigah estates which had for long been ruined by neglect and mismanagement. Last, but not least, the two splendid regiments of Imperial Service Cavalry which I had the pleasure of seeing two years ago and hope to see again to-morrow are evidence of the continued support that Hyderabad is giving to this important movement.

His Excellency's cordial speech was wound up with the wish of wishes that a bright promise of His Highness's early months of power should blossom into many years of prosperous and beneficent rule. On the following day, Their Excellencies were given a sumptuous and royal dinner at the Residency, when the Viceroy and Vicerene presented to the Ruler of the Dominions mementoes of their visit—the former a very handsome gold cup bearing the inscription "From the Viceroy to his friend the Nizam," and the latter, her photograph mounted on a silver frame.

His Highness the Nizam subscribed the munificent sum of sixty lakhs of rupees for the Imperial War Relief Fund. When Great Britain declared war against Turkey, His Highness issued the following manifesto for the guidance of his subjects,—

In view of the present aspect of the war in Europe, let it be generally known that at this critical juncture, it is the bounden duty of the Mahomedans of India to adhere firmly to their old and tried loyalty to the British Government, especially when there is no Moslem or non-Moslem power in the world under which they enjoy such personal and religious liberty as they do in India and when moreover they are assured by the British Government that, as it has in the past always stood the best friend of Islam, so will it continue to be Islam's

best friend and will always protect and cherish its Moslem subjects. I repeat and reiterate that in the crisis before us the Mahomedan inhabitants of India, especially the subjects of this State, should, if they care for their own welfare and prosperity, remain firm and whole-hearted in their loyalty and obedience, swerve not a hair's breadth from their devotion to the British Government, whose cause, I am convinced, is just and right, keep sacred the tie which binds subject peoples to their Rulers, and, lastly, that they should in no case allow themselves to be beguiled by the wiles of any one into a course of open or secret sedition against the British Government. Finally, I give expression to the hope that as I, following the tradition of my ancestors, hold myself ever ready to devote my own person and all the resources of my State and all that I possess to the service of Great Britain, so will all Mahomedans of India, especially my own beloved subjects, hold themselves whole-heartedly ready in the same way.

The full titles of the Nizam are His Highness Asaf Jah, Muzaffar-ul-Mulk wal Mumalik, Rustam-i-Dauran, Arastu-i-Zaman, Nizam-ul-Mulk, Nizam-ud-daulah, Nawab Mir Sir Usman Ali Khan Bahadur, Fateh Jung, G. C. S. I. He is entitled to a permanent salute of twenty-one guns. His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor conferred the distinction of G. C. S. I. on His Highness at the Delhi Coronation Durbar of 1911. The Nizam is an Honorary Colonel of the 20th Deccan Horse. A prince of great enlightenment, a keen sportsman, and a ruler with a high sense of duty, His Highness makes promise of upholding and continuing the worthy traditions of his forbears It is the sincere prayer of all lovers of India, and of the Nizam's Dominions in particular, that he may be vouchsafed a long and prosperous career of usefulness to his subjects and credit to himself and his illustrious line.



H. H. THE MAHARAJAH GAEKWAR OF BARODA

HIS HIGHNESS
SHRI SAYAJI RAO GAEKWAR III, G. C. S. I.,
MAHARAJAH OF BARODA

Among the Indian princes of his generation, His Highness the Maharajah Sir Sayaji Rao III, G. C. S. I, the Gaekwar of Baroda, stands in the forefront for enlightened and sagacious administration of his territories. The State of Baroda consists of tracts of land, which are scattered in Gujerat and Kathiawar and intermingled in an intricate manner with British and other Native State territories. Baroda has an area of 8,182 square miles; its population, according to the census of 1911, numbered 20,33,000. In size it is less than a third of the State of Mysore, and a ninth of Hyderabad or Kashmir. It is much smaller in area than some of the leading States of Rajputana and Central India; whereas, in population it is eighth in order of the Indian States. In revenue, which, according to the figures for 1913-14 was Rs. 2,04,70,000, it is third, ranking next to Hyderabad and Mysore. But in point of conspicuous success in administration, it contends with States like Mysore and Travancore for the premier place in India. This has been, in a very great measure, due to the immense personality of the ruler of the State, whose wide experience and astonishing grasp of detail have familiarised him in a manner almost unique in the life-history of modern Indian sovereigns, with the art and exigencies of scientific government. Added to these great qualities is the true instinct of statesmanship which has always inspired His Highness to throw open his service and particularly the exalted office of Dewan to all the best talent in India.

The name by which the capital town and the State are known amongst the people is Vadodra, which is derived, according to one tradition, from Vatodar "in the heart of the Banian Tree". There is another tradition which assigns to the capital city a different name *i.e.*, Viravati or Virakshetra "teeming with warriors". Though geographically belonging to the Bombay Presidency, Baroda is in direct political relation-

ship with the Government of India. Its four Prants or administrative divisions are in four distinct blocks, three in Gujerat but separated from one another by British territory,—namely, Kadi in the north (3,015 square miles), Baroda in the centre (1,887 square miles), and Naosari in the south (1,952 square miles),—while the fourth, Amreli (1,245 square miles) lies away in Kathiawar and is itself composed of scattered tracts of land.

The State has no uniformity of natural features, climate and rainfall. A great part of it consists of level country, including portions of the alluvial formed from the slopes of the Vindhyan system. Here and there this flatness is disturbed by hills such as the Achali and the Lachharas in Baroda Prant, Salher in Naosari, and the Gir Hills in the Dhari Taluka of Amreli. The reserved forests do not exceed 680 square miles, while there are considerable stretches of grass lands and scrub jungle. The four principal rivers—the Sabarmati, the Mahi, the Narbada and the Tapti—pass in small parts of their courses through the Baroda State. The Banas and the Saraswati drain the northern Talukas. The other rivers are the Mindhola, the Purna, the Ambika and the Satranji. In point of scenery, while Kadi is the least picturesque in effect, Naosari is the most variegated, with its alternation within a limited compass of cultivated land, hills, rivers, forests and the sea. The Baroda Prant has a park-like undulation of soil and scenery due to its extensive cultivation, the abounding trees and the high hedges that relieve the monotony of level fields. There are many lakes and artificial reservoirs like the Sarmishtha, Visnagar, Mawal and Ajwa. In rainfall, Naosari leads with an average of 52 inches, followed by Baroda (32), Kadi (28 inches), and Amreli (22 inches). The hottest months are usually May and June, and September and October are reckoned unhealthy. In Kadi, there is a comparatively long winter season. A Geological expert has shown in his report the mineral possibilities of the State. Granite is obtained for building purposes. Though iron ores are found, the industry is not profitable. Some traces of gold have been found.

The greater portion of the land is now under cultivation, and agriculture is the occupation of over 65 per cent of the population. Modern methods of cultivation are being introduced through the educative agency of the Department of Agriculture. The principal crops are cotton, rice, bajri, jowar, wheat, gram, poppy, tobacco, maize and sugarcane. Wild animals abound in the Gir forests and the jungle territory in Naosari.

The gross revenue, as has been stated before, amounts to Rs. 2,04,70,000, of which nearly six lacs come through the Residency as tribute from the Kathiawar and Gujerat Chiefs. The British currency was adopted in 1901;

while in the city the Babashahi pice is still current. Of the total population, the Hindus form over four-fifths; the Mahomedans are one-sixth of the total. The animists follow with 1,15,411. The professors of other faiths worthy of mention are Jains (43,462), Parsis (7,955) and Christians (7,203). The Vaishnavas are the predominant sect amongst the Hindus as the Sunnies are amongst the Mahomedans. The last census showed how the population was making up steadily for the terrible toll in human life which the famine of 1900 had entailed. The chief exports are opium, tobacco, brass and copper vessels, and silk fabrics ; and the principal imports include rice, grains, metals, salt, piece-goods, spices and kerosine oil.

The early history of Baroda forms part of the history of Gujerat, which, from the eighth century onwards, successively passed through dynastic vicissitudes, from the Anhilvadas, Chalukyas and Waghelas at last into the ample fold of Moghul dominion. The history of the State and its ruling house dates from the break-up of the Moghul empire. The first Maratha invasion of Gujerat happened in 1705, and in this and later incursions, Pilaji Rao Gaekwar, who may be considered as the founder of the present Ruling family, won great distinction from his Chief, Trimbakrao Dabhade. Songhad was the headquarters till 1766. Since 1723 Pilaji regularly levied tribute in Gujerat. His son, Damaji, finally captured Baroda in 1734, since then it has remained in the hands of the Gaekwars. In spite of Damaji's conquests, Moghul authority lingered on till the fall of Ahmedabad in 1753, which date marks a political readjustment partitioning the conquered territories between the two Maratha powers, the Peishwa and the Gaekwar. The great disaster at Panipat, where Damaji was present, did not affect his adding to his conquests in Gujerat. He died in 1768, and there arose a dispute as to succession between his six sons; and the Peishwa was called in to interfere. The first two sons, Sayaji Rao and Govindrao, successively ascended the throne. Fattehsing Rao, the ablest of the brothers, succeeded in 1778. But his career of promise was cut short in 1789 when Manaji Rao, the fourth brother, succeeded him. His political incapacity restored Govindrao again to power in 1793. He ruled till 1800, when he was succeeded by his son, Anandrao. A period of political instability ensued which was ended in 1802 by the help of the Bombay Government who restored the authority of Anandrao in Baroda by defeating his illegitimate brother, Kanhoji, the pretender to the throne. By the treaty of 1805 between the British Government and Baroda, it was arranged *inter alia* that the foreign policy of the State should be conducted by the British and that all differences with the Peishwa should be similarly arranged. Baroda remained staunch to the British cause, dur-

ing the last Maratha war, the trouble with the Pindaris and the campaign against the Holkar. From 1820 to 1841, when Sayaji Rao I was Gaekwar, differences arose, however, between the two Governments which were settled by Sir James Carnac, the Governor of Bombay, in 1841. Ganpatrao succeeded Sayaji Rao in 1847. During his rule, the political supervision of Baroda was transferred to the Supreme Government. His successor, Khande Rao, who became Maharajah in 1856, introduced many reforms. During the Mutiny, he stood firm in his loyalty. In 1870 he was succeeded by his brother Malhar Rao. Five years of misgovernment followed, and at last in 1875 Malhar Rao was deposed for "notorious misconduct" and "gross misgovernment", although the charge of poisoning the Resident that was preferred against him remained unproven. The present ruler, then a young boy of twelve, was selected from among a group of competitors by the widow of Khande Rao, for the throne of Baroda. His family was descended from Pilaji Rao, through his youngest son, Pratap Rao. He was born on the 17th March 1863, and he succeeded Malhar Rao on the 27th July 1875 under the name of Sayaji Rao III. Rajah Sir T. Madhava Row, then at the height of his fame, as the ripest of South Indian administrators, was invited to be the head of the new administration. Mr. F. A. H. Elliot, C. I. E., a distinguished civilian, was chosen as tutor to the young Maharajah. His Highness was invested with full ruling powers in 1881. Into this short interval of six years were crowded all the details of the knowledge that was deemed necessary to fit the youthful sovereign for his future duties. And they were strenuous years of arduous and unremitting toil.

In 1880 the Gaekwar married a princess of the Royal house of Tanjore. By this wife he had daughters who died in infancy and Yuvaraj Fattehsinh whose promising career was early cut short by death in 1908. The Yuvaraj has left behind him, however, his widow and a son and two daughters whose education is the special care of their grandfather. After the death of his first wife, His Highness married again, and this time he sought his bride from the ancient house of Dewas. By her he has three sons and a daughter. The princes had a careful education. The eldest, Prince Jaisinh Rao, returned to the State with a Harvard degree. The second, Prince Shivajirao, had an Oxford education; while the youngest, Dhairyashil Rao, was for a time at school in Eastbourne. The Princess, Indiraraja, is a lady of great charm of manner and remarkable intelligence. In this she takes after her mother, Her Highness Chimnabai Saheba, C. I., who is endowed with great force of character and rare distinction of mind. Brought up before her marriage in an atmosphere of seclusion and ignorance, she came to Baroda fully resolved to equip herself in the best manner possible

for the great position that she was called upon to fill by the side of her distinguished consort. She has earnestly educated herself, and in this regard she has been ably seconded by her husband whose quest after knowledge has been equally keen and ardent. With him, too, she has been a great traveller, not only in India but also all over the world, eagerly absorbing new scenes and alien civilisations. But not only has she been a sharer with her husband in all this enlarging experience, but she has always borne along with him, like a real helpmeet, the stress and burden of government. She has always been keenly interested in the welfare of her people, and female education has been her especial regard. Her interest in the administration has been always beneficent, on the side of cleanly government and sincere progress. In collaboration with a noted Indian writer she has brought out an interesting book on the position of women in India.

On the 28th December 1881, His Highness was formally invested with full powers by Sir James Ferguson, Governor of Bombay, on behalf of Lord Ripon, Viceroy. He immediately threw himself vigorously into every detail of the administration. The story of the thirty-three years of his life that followed is the story of the marvellous progress of Baroda from the dismal backwardness of 1875 to the model State that it is to-day. His Highness has been a great traveller. His first trip in 1887 was undertaken for reasons of health. He was accompanied by Her Highness and, while in England, he received from the Queen signal marks of honour. He was then made a G. C. S. I. Thirteen years later His Highness travelled through Europe and America. This time also he was graciously treated by Queen Victoria at Windsor. A third time in 1905-06, he was in England, and there he came first into that prominence which has always since been his, as a speaker. In 1910 Their Highnesses accompanied by their daughter, again made an extended tour through the Continent, America and Japan. In the last named country, the welcome accorded to the distinguished Indian Prince was remarkable for its warmth and cordiality. From the Mikado, downwards, every body treated him with the highest consideration. In America the party toured for a month and was everywhere welcomed.

In May 1911, His Highness proceeded to England to be present at the Coronation of the new Emperor, returning in November in time for the Delhi Durbar. In the middle of 1913, Their Highnesses again went to Europe. On the 25th August of the same year, Princess Indira married in London, according to Brahmo rites, Prince Jitendra, now Maharajah of Cooch Behar. The remarkable feature of all these trips has been the eager desire of His Highness to study new methods in administration.

Wherever he went he closely studied the industrial and educational systems and returned to his State with his mind full of these new ideas.

The wisdom and efficiency of the administration of Baroda are best seen in its educational progress. It is not easy to break through the fetters of immemorial custom and convince a people who are slaves to it, of the benefits of education. The first necessity of a modern State is an intelligent democracy; and that His Highness is keenly alive to this fact is shown from what he has said in one of his speeches.

In these days when more and more value is attached to public opinion and a fuller and fuller measure of free and responsible activity is conceded to the people, universal education is needed to equip them for their new destinies and responsibilities. It is dangerous to have in these days of democracy an ignorant and, therefore, a suffering populace; for such a populace is liable to be moved by the first wind of anarchy and dogmatism. In these advanced times, it is idle to argue that education is the concern of the individual and not of the State. It is becoming an axiom that its supervision is in the main the duty, and the most important duty of the State and cannot be either economically or efficiently discharged by scattered unorganised effort.

The Education Department has been carefully developed and organised; and in the working of the compulsory education law, His Highness has sought to associate the people with the educational authorities. He has directed that the patel and the Village Panchayet should be primarily responsible for the attendance of school children. The compulsory system was first introduced tentatively in one of the Talukas as early as 1893, and it was not till 1905 that the principle was extended to the rest of the State. At first the compulsion was effected with graduated degrees of stringency, and safeguards were provided against any cases of real hardship. The nine years of general compulsion have justified the wisdom of the measure, and in point of numbers, it can be said that the system has abundantly succeeded. In 1913-14, nearly 2,30,000 or about the entire school-going strength was receiving some sort of instruction. These figures are exceedingly gratifying compared to the state of things in Bengal, which is the most advanced of the Indian provinces in point of education, where only 40·9 per cent of the male school-going population is under instruction. The expenditure on education is also an eloquent testimony to the eagerness of the Baroda Government to fling open the doors of knowledge to the people. The total expenditure during 1913-14 was over 17 lacs or one-twelfth of the total revenue. For higher education there is the Baroda College, a first-grade institution with 550 students (including 6 girls) and a large staff of highly qualified Indian and European Professors. Its annual upkeep costs nearly a lac of rupees; and its Science Laboratories are fully equipped. Nearly 200 of its students are in

residence with a resident Professor in charge. 11 High Schools for boys, 1 High School for girls, and 33 Anglo-Vernacular Institutions provide secondary education for over 9,000 students The total cost of English education (College and Secondary) comes to over Rs. 2,50,000 annually. Elementary education is free and compulsory and given in over 3,000 schools, where 2,22,000 children, including 82,000 girls, receive instruction. Three Training Colleges (including one for women) send out trained instructors annually to the State schools. Special Zenana classes give instruction to grown up women. Girls' Schools give lessons in domestic economy and needle work in addition to the ordinary curriculum. Compared to the figures for 1905 (45,000), the number of girls at school has nearly doubled. It is a striking testimony to the vigour and faith with which the compulsory system is worked in the Baroda State.

Nor is the education of the depressed classes and forest tribes neglected. Over 16,000 children, out of a total Antyaja population of 1,74,000, or over 9 per cent, are at school. When one considers the usual squalor of their lives, the educative value of the new forces at work can be better imagined than described. Scholarships are given to the children of these classes, and books and other school requisites are provided free. Four Model schools for forest children teach up to the highest vernacular standards. There are, besides, schools for the children of hereditary patels, orphanages, reformatories, Sanskrit schools, Music schools which are very popular, night schools, special Urdu schools, Military schools for sons of sepoys, and lastly technical schools of which the Kala Bhavan is deservedly noted all over India, for the excellence of the practical training that is given there. The Kala Bhavan is attended by 325 students, of whom some come from distant parts of India : and its courses are comprehensive from Dyeing and Chemical Technology to Architecture and the fine arts. It also includes a faculty for the theory and practice of commerce. The State Workshop turns out very good work. The lot of teachers has been recently improved, and trained teachers begin with a minimum of Rs. 10. To co-ordinate the work of popular education, there is a net-work of 422 libraries spread over all the State and receiving annual grants of Rs. 77,000. This is a feature which we do not find in other parts of India. Its uniqueness strikes the visitor at once and stamps the Maharajah as a man of originality. There is a splendid Museum with a Picture Gallery attached, which attracts a daily average of over 900 visitors. Many promising students have been sent abroad : during 1913-14, there were as many as fourteen students studying abroad with State help.

Among the other constructive activities of the Gaekwar are his efforts in the improvement of industries. Agriculture, in particular, receives his

close attention. The Department is under a separate Director, trained in Cambridge and Circencester. New crops are introduced wherever possible, and improved methods of cultivation are popularised. Agricultural Associations have been started. Journals and leaflets are circulated broadcast among the people. Agricultural Exhibitions are frequently held. Model Farms, Seed depots, and Veterinary Hospitals have been established at suitable centres. Investigations about diseases on plants and crops have been made and Sericulture introduced. To promote industrial concerns systematically, a Department of Commerce was recently instituted. The Cotton Mills, the Dyeing Factories, the Sugar Factory, the Leather Factory are all fairly thriving under private enterprise. Chambers of Commerce have been recently established in Baroda and Naosari. The total number of Co-operative Societies is 189 with a membership of 5,465 and a working capital of nearly four lacs of rupees. Out of the five Agricultural Banks all except the Harij Bank are working successfully.

In all this work of industrial development, His Highness has been an ardent enthusiast. In the opening speech at the Industrial Exhibition at Ahmedabad in December 1902 he said:—

Famine, increasing poverty, widespread disease, all these bring home to us the fact that there is some radical weakness in our system and that something must be done to remedy it. But there is another aspect of the matter, and that is, that this economic problem is our last ordeal as a people. It is our last chance.

Fail there and what can the future bring us ? We can only grow poorer and weaker, more dependent on foreign help; we must watch our industrial freedom fall into extinction, and drag out a miserable existence as the hewers of wood and drawers of water to any foreign power which happens to be our master.

Solve that problem and you have a great future before you, the future of a great people, worthy of your ancestors and of your old position among the nations.

We must resolutely see what we need, and if we find a plain and satisfactory solution, let us adopt it whether we have authority for it or not. Turn to the past and see what made India great, and if you find anything in our present customs which does not square with what we find there, make up your minds to get rid of it boldly without thinking that it will ruin you to do so. Study the past till you know what knowledge you can get from it which you can use in the present, and add to it what the West can teach us especially in the application of Science to the needs of life.

In the matter of social reform too, His Highness has been a zealous worker. One of the most remarkable achievements was the codification

under his ægis by a committee of learned jurists of the entire system of Hindu law as at present in force. The Infant Marriage Prevention Act was passed in 1902 and has acted as a very effective check on the evils of early marriage. In his eloquent speech before the National Social Conference held in Bombay in 1904, he gave utterance to his ideals:—

It matters nothing where the truth comes from. If it serves a national purpose or helps national ends, then it is national, whether the form in which we find it is modern or Vedic, European or purely Indian; and we must be eager to find this knowledge and apply it whether it has the sanction of the older ideals or not. We have to look forward to the future of India, we are not going to revive the past.

The evils of caste cover the whole range of social life. It hampers the life of the individual with a vast number of petty rules and observances which have no meaning. In the wider spheres of life, in Municipal or local affairs, it destroys all hope of local patriotism and of working for the common good by thrusting forward the interests of the caste as opposed to those of the community and by making combined efforts for the common good exceedingly difficult. But its most serious offence is its effect on national life and national unity. It intensifies local dissensions and diverse interests, and obscures great national ideals and interests which should be those of every caste and renders the country disunited and incapable of remedying its defects or of availing itself of the advantages which it should gain from contact with the civilisation of the West.

The general administration of the State is in the hands of the Dewan, who and three other Ministers form the Council, which disposes of much of the important work of the State. There is a Legislative Council of twenty-five members in which there is a non-official majority. Ten of these members are elected by the Municipality and local boards of electorates which correspond to the Vibhag changes of the State. Five are nominated non-officials, of whom one or two is usually a Sardar. There are three ex-officio members besides six other officials, and finally the Dewan as the President. Modified powers of interpellation have now been given to the members. The Judicial Department is controlled by a High Court of three judges. There are besides 351 other Courts dispensing justice, including Village Munsiffs and empowered Panchayets. There is a wide extension of local justice as represented by the conciliators who number over 200 and who are designed to act as a check on litigation. The judicial and executive functions have been entirely separated in Baroda. There is a Huzur Nyaya Cutcherry (Privy Council) which advises the Maharajah on appeals from the High Court.

The regular forces of the State consist of 160 artillery, 1,582 Cavalry, 3,177 Infantry and a Band of 170 men. The irregulars number 2,000 horse

and 1,800 foot. The total Military expenditure comes to about Rs. 17,00,000 in a year. The forces are commanded by a retired English Colonel and are kept in a high state of efficiency.

There is a Police Force of 1,016 Officers and 3,922 men, and of these 190 are mounted. There is a Police Commissioner. The Jails are well managed, and special attention is paid to the treatment of juvenile convicts, who are generally taught some useful industries such as weaving, sewing, and rattan work. The Thana system of sending select convicts to work at the Model Farm as practically free men has had a salutary effect. The Public Works Budget on Irrigation, Roads and Buildings averages between 30 and 40 lacs annually. The recurring repairs alone cost between four and five lacs every year. There is, besides, an important Railway Department under an Engineer-in-Chief. The policy of the State, ever since the new reign, has been always consistently progressive in Railway development. There are over 400 miles of Railways owned by the State, and 200 miles more are projected or under construction. The annual Railway budget averages between 14 and 20 lacs a year.

Local Self-Government is one of the most important protective machinery that a civilised Government affords to its people. In this respect Baroda State has made a notable advance compared to the rest of India. There are 10 Self-Governing and 28 State-managed Municipalities. The elective privilege has been very largely extended; a very equitable distribution of funds is made for rural public works and sanitation. There are 38 Local Boards for the administration of these local funds. An interesting advance in the powers of these bodies is the privilege of interpellation recently accorded to them. In addition to all this superstructure, there is an elaborate basis in the village communes, which numbered 2,141 in 1913-14. Almost every village is now provided with this organisation for autonomous development. A complete system of village service from the headman, the talati, the schoolmaster downwards to the humble Bhangi has been developed. The old village system which had hitherto been disintegrated by the delocalising tendencies of the English industrial civilisation, is now being restored; and with it, there is a resurgence of a healthy invigorating interest in land.

Medical aid is also provided in 60 Hospitals including a Leper Asylum, a Lunatic Asylum, and a Chemical Laboratory. The Main Hospital in Baroda is a well equipped and efficient institution. Students are educated in Ambulance, Nursing and Home Hygiene classes. The total medical expenditure exceeds Rs. 200,000 per year.

The full titles of the Gaekwar are His Highness, Farzand-i-Khas-i-

Daulat-i-Inglishia, Maharajah Sayaji Rao Gaekwar, Sena Khas Khel Samsher Bahadur, G.C.S.I. He is entitled to a salute of twenty-one guns.

Baroda with its interesting institutions and its progressive government has always attracted visitors. Successive Viceroys like Lords Dufferin, Elgin and Minto came to Baroda. The last named was in the Gaekwar's capital in 1909, when he was entertained on a lavish scale. At the State banquet, His Highness observed:—

My Lord, it has always appeared to me that any true progress among the people must embrace their social and moral advancement as well as their material well-being. I think the true function of Government is not to stand entirely aloof in these matters, but to help forward their subjects in their endeavours to keep pace with modern times and modern ideas......In these and in all other matters of internal administration every Native State, in proportion as it enjoys liberty of action, grows in efficiency in securing the welfare of its subjects, and, therefore, promoting general progress. Any curtailment of freedom in internal affairs lessens our sense of responsibility and weakens our power for effecting improvement.

Loyalty has always been considered in the East as one of the first virtues in a people; but loyalty, when merely sentimental, is of small value. It should be real, genuine and active. To secure such loyalty there should be a community of interests between the subjects and the ruling powers. The former should have a proper share in the administration of the country and should feel that the Government is their own.

In his reply, Lord Minto paid a remarkable compliment:—

I have listened with deep interest to the eloquent words in which you have assured me of the friendly relations of your State with the British Government and have asserted the unshaken loyalty of your house to the throne. I know that Your Highness fully recognises the great extent to which the future peace and prosperity of the Indian Empire must depend upon a true appreciation of the unity of interests of its component parts and their mutual co-operation for the common good.

I am well aware of the labour Your Highness has devoted to the study of educational and social questions in your State. In other matters too you have done much for administrative efficiency. The creation of your Legislative Council and your bold attempt to separate the exercise of judicial and executive functions has, I can assure Your Highness, elicited the warm interest of the Government of India, and I must, at the same time, wish you every success in the results of the abolition by your Durbar of all internal customs duties.

I can assure Your Highness it has been a great gratification to me to renew our acquaintance in the capital of this important principality, whose friendly relations with the British Government have existed for over a century, and to recognise on all sides the many evidences of your admini-

strative energy and capacity, and Lady Minto and I will carry away with us many recollections, not only of the magnificence of your hospitality but of the cordiality of the welcome extended to us by Your Highness and the Maharani.

The reader of these pages will now feel convinced that the life which he has been reading is not only that of a good ruler but of a great Indian of his time. His Highness Sayaji Rao is one of the few men of his class that have stepped out of the bounds of their environments into conspicuous positions of great national leadership. Even if the romance of his life, of how an illiterate humble youth from a dismal village in the backwoods of Nasik gradually carved his way onward to the very forefront of his time and country—even if all that story become blurred with the passage of years in the memory of men, still the work of Sayaji Rao III will stand forth as a far-shining landmark of a representative and significant achievement: representative of that union of Western efficiency with Eastern idealism on which is based the hope of a nobler Indian nationhood; and significant of that great uprising of the waters which will enable this country to take her lost place again in the comity of nations.



H. H. THE MAHARAJAH OF MYSORE

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SIR KRISHNARAJA WADIYAR BAHADUR, G. C. S. I., MAHARAJAH OF MYSORE

RESTING on the shoulders of the Eastern and Western Ghauts that meet near the Nilgiris and forming the south-western portion of what is known as the Deccan plateau which has an elevation of two to three thousand feet is the flourishing State of Mysore, second in extent and revenue only to the Dominions of the Nizam, but more powerful and influential than the other Protected States of India. The fertile and extensive table-land over which His Highness the Maharajah Sir Krisharaja Wadiyar Bahadur, G. C. S. I., rules, covers an area of 29,445 square miles, and has a population of 5,806,193. The Province yields an annual revenue of Rs. 2,72,92,000, of which the sum of thirty-five lakhs is paid to the British Government as subsidy. It has assimilated to a remarkable extent all the advanced methods of state-craft known to the modern civilized world, and has made rapid strides in its progreess during the last thirty years. It proves beyond doubt how much contentment and happiness can prevail among the people of an Indian Principality under an improved and sympathetic system of native administration. It was also, for a long time, under British management, having been for half a century (1831-1881) administered by a purely British Agency. It is unique in one respect, that it is a blend of the influences of the West and the East. While it has adopted most of the ideals of the West in the matter of social and political advancement its innate conservatism, assisted by the rational patriotism of the ruling house and its chief advisers, has preserved for it all that is best in the ancient institutions and practices of orthodox India. Thus in the social and court life of Mysore there meet all the preservative and progressive forces that are at work in this country due to western education and example.

The Province may be roughly divided into two broad sections; the

Malnad and the Maidan—the hill tracts and the plains. The former lie about the Western Ghauts and enjoy the benefits of the monsoons; the latter form the comparatively low tract of land near the Madras frontier. The State is in the form of an irregular quadrilateral, roughly measuring three hundred miles east to west, and two hundred and twenty-five north to south. The climate is healthy and salubrious, and the average rainfall for the whole Province is forty inches, the highest being more than 350 inches at the top of the Agumbe Ghaut. The soil is generally fertile, and it is particulary rich in the valleys owing to the very fine deposits of decomposed rocks constantly added thereto, forming an excellent loamy mixture. With the grand irrigation projects that are now taken on hand, a larger portion of the State will soon be converted into blooming gardens rich in cocoanut, arecanut, jack, and other plantations, while its climatic excellence will aid greatly towards the introduction of many varieties of fruit trees and plants from temperate regions. As staple produce we may mention rice, ragi, grain, wheat, oilseeds, cotton and tobacco. The hills afford excellent tracts for coffee cultivation, and there is a large planting community, both European and Indian, in the Province.

The country is noted for its beautiful natural scenery. The Nilgiris and the Eastern and the Western Ghauts fringe the southern, eastern and western borders of the State respectively. Continuous with these and in places lying parallel to them run broken chains of hills, presenting a most picturesque appearance, and providing for the formation of rich and green valleys of luxuriant vegetation. The chief peaks are Mullaingiri, Sakunagari, Devarayadrug, Nandirug and Ramanagar. One peculiar feature of the territories is the existence of isolated massy rocks rearing their heads often from four to five thousand feet above the sea-level, their summits being crowned with the remains of fortifications from whose invulnerable heights the warriors of old had met their foes and defied their brave and patient attempts at reducing them. Large rivers take their rise within the borders of Mysore, as the Cauvery, the Tungabhadra, the Palar, the northern and southern Pennars. There are also minor streams forming tributaries to these, namely, the Hemavati, the Lokabavani, the Shimsha, the Arkavati, the Kebbani, the Honnuhole, and the Vedaviti : of these, the Tungabhadra and the Vedavati are formed by the confluence of the Tunga and Bhadra, Veda and Avati, respectively. The Sharavati, giving rise to the famous Gersoppa Falls of nearly 850 feet in height, discharges itself into the Arabian Sea. Though mighty rivers flow through the State, they are not navigable as their beds are covered with rocks.

Many are the places of great interest to the tourist who loves gorgeousness of scenery, who cares for hoary historical or antiquarian associations, or who is fond of the chase. The dense forests in the Malnad tracts provide game to satisfy the wildest dreams of the most enthusiastic sportsman. The Khedda operations of Mysore are of repute all over the world. There is hardly any visitor from the King-Emperor down to the globe-trotter of wealth and influence who has not enjoyed the exciting spectacle of catching and training elephants practised on a grand scale in Mysore. The splendid Gersoppa Falls on the Canara frontier of the Province is a glorious sight worth all the trouble and cost which a journey to the place involves. The electric installations of the Sivasamudram Falls are considered to be a grand monument of the engineering skill of those who undertook the work and also of the administrative insight of the statesmen who designed them with a view to employ all the natural resources of the State for improving the moral and material conditions of the people on the latest methods known to science.

It cannot be said that the whole Province of what is called modern Mysore has always remained intact as one political unit. The regions had necessarily been shared at different times by various rulers. There are areas within the tract connecting it with the events of the Mahabharata and the Ramayana. Later on, it came under the sway of the Buddhistic rulers of the Maurian dynasty, and subsequently under the Jains. Many monuments and relics go to establish this fact. About the beginning of the Christian era, the country seems to have been ruled by the Gangas. A struggle then ensued between the Chera kings and the Gangas, which continued for several centuries. The Pallavas and the Chalukyas then fought for supremacy, and both were eventually reduced by the Rashtrakutas. In the tenth century, the Cholas, who were very powerful in the Kongu country (modern Coimbatore), came to prominence, and there was a prolonged contest between them and the Chalukyas for its possession. Then sprang up the first independent dynasty of Mysore, known as the Hoysalas or the Bellalas; and one Vishnuvardhana of this house ruled as a Viceroy of the Chalukya kings, over an extensive area roughly corresponding to the present State of Mysore. With the decline of the Chalukyas and the rise of the Yadavas and the Kakatiyas, the power of the Hoysalas increased, and they, in conjunction with the Cholas, reached the height of their prosperity in later times. Then began the violent invasions of Malik Kafur and Mahomed Bin Toglakh. These upset everything in South India and gave rise to the great kingdom of Vijianagar, whose ruins about Hampi still excite the admiration of the tourists.

The Province of Mysore came under the kings of Vijianagar and was

ruled in three separate divisions by three Viceroys, who were constantly quarrelling with and intriguing against one another. After the battle of Talikota, which annihilated the kingdom, the State was again thrown into confusion, and it was then that Raja Wadiyar, an ancestor of the present ruling house, and a chieftain of remarkable abilities, became conspicuous under the Viceroy of Seringapatam. He claimed descent from the Yadavas of Gujarat, who had settled down in these parts some two centuries earlier. The family seemed to have owned a small patch of territory about Mysore. It was Raja Wadiyar that later on enlarged his principality into a little kingdom by occupying the Viceroyalty of Seringapatam. To make his position secure, he got his Raj ratified by an imperial grant in 1612 A. D. This was how the State of Mysore, as modern history knows it, came to be established at the beginning of the seventeenth century. It then continued in this dynasty with varying fortunes right through the seventeenth and the earlier part of the eighteenth centuries, until the time of Dodda Krishnaraja Wadiyar. The Dalavoy line was very influential at the time, and when Krishnaraja Wadiyar died without issue, there arose disputes about the succession, in which the Dalavoys took a prominent part for a long time. One of the unhappy monarchs, Krishnaraja II, unable to put up with their interference, had to call in the aid of Haidar Ali, a General, who had just returned after a distinguished military career near Trichinopoly in the wars between the rival Carnatic Nawabs. Haidar thus found himself all-powerful in the State. He rose to be the virtual ruler; and when Krishnaraj II passed away, he nominally kept up the native sovereignty by installing a young Hindu prince. His son, Tippu, subsequently became the acknowledged Chief of Mysore. Thus the dynasty of Raja Wadiyar, after a continued run of power for nearly three centuries, was smothered for a time, only to be revived very soon under British protection.

It is unnecessary for our purpose to describe here the wars for supremacy between the English on the one hand, and Haidar Ali and Tippu Sultan, the Mahrattas and the Nizam on the other, in the latter half of the eighteenth century. It is enough to notice that they culminated in the famous siege of Seringapatam in 1799, in which Tippu was slain and the whole kingdom fell absolutely into the hands of the British. The family of Tippu was subdued and expelled from the country, and the ancient Hindu line of kings was once more restored to the great delight of the people of Mysore, when Krishnaraja Wadiyar III was made ruler. We thus pass on to the period of modern Mysore, under the direct protection of the English. It is worthy of mention here that among those that took a large share in bringing about this settlement was the renowned

soldier-statesman "great in council, great in war," the Duke of Wellington, then Colonel Arthur Wellesley, who was deputed for the work by his brother, the Marquis of Wellesley, the Governor-General of the time.

When the Prince was a minor, the State was ruled by Purnayya, the Dewan-Regent. Maharajah Krishnaraja Wadiyar III assumed charge of it while very young in 1812 and continued to administer it till 1831 when, the state of affairs having in their opinion reached a stage that called for interference, the British Government actuated by the best intentions assumed charge of the administration for a period of fifty years delegating all the powers necessary for the conduct of it to the Commissioners appointed by them. The half a century of British occupation may be roughly divided into three sections:—

1. The non-regulation system from 1831 to 1855.
2. The transition period from 1856 to 1862.
3. The regulation system from 1863 to 1881, when the territories were made over to the late Maharajah, His Highness Chamarajendra Wadiyar Bahadur.

During the earlier part of the first period, the Province had the benefit of the able administration of Sir Mark Cubbon, whose memory is still held in affectionate respect all over the State. The work of organizing the government almost anew fell to his lot. In 1855 Lord Dalhousie went to Mysore, and after looking into the matters himself, His Lordship sanctioned the appointment of a Judicial Commissioner and advised the introduction of many other salutary reforms, such as the formation of a Public Works Department, and a Department of Education. There was a re-distribution of districts, and many administrative and judicial arrangements were made. The financial condition of the Principality was placed on a solvent basis. A settled method of administration on modern lines may be said to have begun in Mysore in the early sixties of the last century, when a systematic Government was evolved; laws and regulations were framed; different departments were formed; and the whole Province was brought into working order. When Sir Mark Cubbon made over the management to his successor, the State was, so far as official organization went, as orderly as a machine.

In 1865 Maharajah Krishnaraja Wadiyar adopted Chamarajendra Wadiyar, and many were the difficulties that had to be overcome before the adoption was recognized by the Supreme Government in the following year. Subsequent to it all things went on smoothly, and after Krishnaraja Wadiyar died on the 27th March 1868, the adopted son was proclaimed Ruler at the the time of the annual Dusserah festivities, while the administration was carried on by the Commissioner in the name of the young

Maharajah. The State suffered acutely from the effects of the great famine of 1876-78, and relief measures on a gigantic scale were undertaken, when the whole surplus in the treasury was used up, and a debt of nearly eighty lakhs had to be incurred.

The education of the Prince was in the hands of such able tutors as Colonel Haynes, Colonel Malleson, and Mr. Porter in succession. Chamarajendra Wadiyar Bahadur wedded in 1878 a lady of the Kallale family related to Krishnaraja Wadiyar II. The marriage was a happy one, and the union was blessed with a large family of children, of whom two sons, Their Highnesses the present Maharajah and the Yuvarajah, and two daughters are the survivors.

The 25th March 1881 is a red-letter day in the annals of Mysore; for it was then that the Government of Queen Victoria, with a large-hearted generosity, was pleased to restore the State of Mysore to the ancient line of Hindu Kings. His Highness the Maharajah Chamarajendra Wadiyar Bahadur was duly installed on the *musnad* by the Right Honourable Mr. W. P. Adam, Governor of Madras. Sir James Gordon was appointed Resident, and the management of the Province was entrusted to Dewan Rangacharlu, C. I. E., with a Council to assist him. The chief event of his administration was the inauguration of the Representative Assembly of Mysore, the first session of which was held on the 7th October 1881. The scope of that institution was defined by the Dewan in his opening speech in the following words:—

His Highness's Government will be glad to receive any observations and suggestions which you may wish to make in the public interest, and I need not assure you that they will meet with every consideration. I have only to express my hope that appreciating the spirit in which these arrangements have been initiated, your observations may be directed to matters of real public interest.

Mr. Rangacharlu held the office for two years, and he died early in 1883. He was succeeded by Sir K. Seshadri Iyer, the maker of modern Mysore, who continued to guide its destinies till his death in 1901. During these eighteen years, the country was benefited to no small extent by his statesmanship and devotion to duty. Maharajah Chamarajendra Wadiyar, who had a prosperous rule of thirteen years, and who had won the affection and regard of his numerous subjects, suddenly passed away in 1894 from an attack of diphtheria, when His Highness was at Calcutta on a visit to His Excellency the Viceroy. His young son, Krishnaraja Wadiyar, the present Maharajah, then ascended the throne. He was born on the 20th June 1884, and was, therefore, at the time of his accession, hardly ten years old. When the Prince was a minor, the State was ruled

by Her Highness the Maharani as Regent, with Sir K. Seshadri Iyer as Dewan. The administrative achievements of the late Maharajah were thus admirably summed up by the Dewan in a speech made by him before the Mysore Representative Assembly:—

His Highness's reign was attended with a remarkable measure of financial success. It began with liabilities exceeding the assets by 80¾ lakhs and with an annual income less than the annual expenditure by 1¼ lakh. During the first three years the revenues from all sources were generally stationary, and in the fourth year there was a considerable decline due to the drought of that year, but during the next ten years, the improvement year after year was large and continuous. Comparing 1880-81 with 1894-95 the annual revenue rose from 103 to 180½ lakhs or by 75·24 per cent., and after spending on a large and liberal scale on all works and purposes of public utility, the net assets amounted to over 176 lakhs, in lieu of the net liability of 80¾ lakhs with which His Highness's reign began.

It was during His late Highness's time that almost all the progressive measures that have made Mysore a model Indian State were inaugurated. The Maharajah's administration was luckily characterized by great financial success. Gold Mining, as an important branch of industry, took a firm root in the Province. Communications were improved; and new lines of railway covering nearly 315 miles were laid. The Municipal Department was organized ; education was paid special attention to ; and large irrigation projects were undertaken. On the whole, His Highness was able to leave a noble heritage to his son and successor, Sri Krishnaraja Wadiyar, who had but to follow the excellent example set by his father.

The education of the young Maharajah was at first in the hands of Mr. Whiteley, and Mr. Raghavendra Rao in succession. After his father's demise, Mr. S. M. Fraser became tutor and guardian. Under the capable and experienced guidance of this gentleman, the Prince had a very good training. During his minority, the State enjoyed a continuity of policy in administration ; for Sir K. Seshadri Iyer was at the helm of the Province all the time. An organized and settled government gave the Dewan full scope for having recourse to advanced methods of statecraft, and his genius readily embraced the opportunity. The working of the Sivasamudram Electric Installations has given nearly ten lakhs of net annual income to the Principality, besides opening up large resources of industry and adding to the comfort and convenience of the people. When Sir K. Seshadri Iyer passed away in 1901, he left the country in a most flourishing state. Her Highness the Maharani-Regent also exerted a very salutary influence on

the administration. As a mark of recognition of her eminent services, a personal salute of nineteen guns was accorded to her by the Government of India. In June 1900, the marriage of His Highness with Shri Pratap Kumari Bai, a Princess of Kathiawar, was solemnised amidst great rejoicings in the capital. His Excellency Lord Ampthill, the Governor of Madras, and a number of distinguished visitors and Ruling Chiefs attended the celebration as guests.

The Maharajah assumed direct control of the State in 1902, when His Excellency Lord Curzon said: "The young Maharajah, whom I am *about to instal, has recently attained his eighteenth birth-day* He has passed through a minority of nearly eight years. They have not been idle or vapid years spent in enjoyment or dissipated in idleness. They have been years of careful preparation for the duties that lay before him, and of laborious training for his exalted state. It is no light thing to assume charge of five millions of people, and it is no perfunctory training that is required for such a task......He has made frequent tours among his people. He has studied their wants and needs at first hand. He has thereby acquired the knowledge which will enable him to understand the problems with which he will be confronted. Fortified by this knowledge, his naturally business-like habits and instinctive self-reliance should enable him to steer a straight course.........Youth is his, and health and strength. He enters upon a splendid heritage at an early age. May God guide him in his undertaking and speed him on the straight path." His Highness was made a G. C. S. I. in 1907. He is an Honorary Colonel of the 26th King George's Own Light Cavalry.

During the thirteen years that the Maharajah has been in charge of the State, he has shown what part good training and education play in the making of a constitutional monarch. He has been most sympathetic as a ruler, and has given a free hand to the responsible officers of the Principality to do their utmost to secure the happiness of his people. This has met with a very enthusiastic and loyal responsefrom the several heads of the departments, and the picture of modern Mysore, as it is administered to-day, is one of which any prince may be proud. A mere look into the budget of the State for 1913-14 is enough to convince the casual observer what an excellent account His Highness is able to give of his stewardship of the Province. The revenue of the current year has risen to Rs. 2,72,92,000. The most cheerful features of the finance are the accumulated balance of more than a crore of rupees as the savings of the past few prosperous years, and the contemplated expenditure of this sum on productive improvements in the territories. Indeed, the noteworthy item in the revenue of Mysore at

present is the large income from mining and other sources, and this amount the Durbar has wisely determined to spend on schemes tending to ameliorate the condition, moral and economic, of the people, and to benefit the future generations as well as the present. It has wisely hit upon important projects of irrigation and railway extension, and upon the spread of education and enlightenment in the country. Under the circumstances we may look forward to a still greater prosperity for the State in the years to come.

The administration is carried on by His Highness the Maharajah assisted by the Dewan, the chief executive officer, and two other members who form the Council. The Province is divided into eight Districts, each being in charge of a Deputy Commissioner, who is assisted by a staff of Assistant Commissioners.

The cumulative effect of more than half a century of well-ordered and progressive government is discernible in the growth of several important edifices and useful institutions that adorn the capital cities. Among the places of interest or the institutions worth visiting may be mentioned the Palace Buildings, the Maharajah's College for boys, and the Maharani's College for girls, the Rangacharlu Memorial Hall, the Oriental Library, and the Zoological Gardens in Mysore ; the old Palace of Tippu Sultan, the Residency Office, the Laul Baugh, the Maharajah's Palace, the Tata's Experimental Silk Farm, the Central College, the St. Joseph's College, the Government Museum, and the Public Offices at Bangalore ; the old and historic fort of Tippu Sultan (Daria Daulat Baugh) or " The garden of the wealth of the sea" at Seringapatam ; the celebrated Gumbaz or Mausoleum built by Tippu for his parents; and other great monuments of the vanished glory of the capital under the short-lived dynasty of Haidar and Tippu ; the Halebede Temples and the Statue of Goutameswara in Sravanabalagola (Hassan District).

The industrial resources of the country are almost inexhaustible. The indigenous industries include metallurgy, pottery, carpentry, tanning, glass-making, rope-making, oil-extracting, and the manufacture of earth salt. The Mysore Spinning and Manufacturing Company at Bangalore, the Bangalore Woollen, Cotton and Silk Mills Company, and the Mysore Tannery, are some of the prominent industrial organizations of a corporate nature. The joint-stock companies have a promising future. Eighty of these institutions are already at work. A large impetus has been given to the extension of the system of co-operative credit. There are in all 343 societies of the kind. The application of the electrical energy available for purposes of manufacture will have a far-reaching and benefi-

cial effect on the industries of the country. With a view to improve the economic progress of the State, His Highness the Maharajah sometime ago ordered the convening of the Mysore Economic Conference. In the last year's budget a provision of a lakh of rupees was made for its expenses. The State Insurance Fund is really a very useful institution, which is conferring great benefits on officials who have sought its help, besides exerting an indirect but wholesome influence on the moral tone of the services.

According to regulation No. I of 1907, a Council was established by the Durbar for the purpose of making laws and regulations. This is a very desirable reform giving a share to the people in the legislation which they are to obey. Agriculture being the chief industry of the Province, every effort is made to render help to the farmer. There is an *Agricultural Gazette* devoted to the dissemination of the most useful information about the modern scientific methods of cattle treatment. There are eight Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries. New varieties of seed grains and agricultural implements are distributed among the educated and intelligent agriculturists. The Agricultural Department is also carrying on very useful experiments, and is trying its best to root out diseases from staple plants. The elaborate irrigation works taken on hand will also contribute largely to the welfare of the country. Among them are worthy of mention the Marikanave project, which has become an accomplished fact, and the Kannambadi scheme, now being worked out, for a large reservoir in the Cauvery to provide the storage needed for power-supply and irrigation. They are sure to bring in extensive tracts of virgin land under cultivation.

The Electrical Department is a unique feature of the State. The Sivasamudram Electrical Installations serve immensely for lighting and industrial purposes, and have proved to be a valuable asset of the Province. It is proposed to put up a fourth installation at a cost of six lakhs during the current year. The Geological Department is also doing an enormous amount of profitable work. Five gold mines are in active operation—the Mysore, Champion Reef, Ooregaum, Nandidrug, and Balaghat mines. Already the chief places are connected by railways and there are several railway extensions in contemplation, viz., the Hassan-Mysore Section ; the Arsikere-Mysore Line ; the line from Nanjangud to Erode ; and the Bangalore-Chickaballapur Light Railway. The forests constitute an important source of revenue to the State, and the Durbar has availed itself of the most up-to-date scientific methods for their reservation, culture, improvement and administration. A police force of 851 officers and about 6,000 men is maintained at an annual cost of nearly ten lakhs. The State Troops consist of the Imperial Service Lancers, the Local Ser-

vice Regiment of Silladars, the three Battalions of Barr Infantry, and the Imperial Service Transport Corps. They are under the efficient control and able management of Colonel J. Desaraj Urs, M.V.O., C. I. E.

Medical aid is rendered in 152 hospitals and dispensaries in the Province, and many improvements in equipment and in the personnel of the department are in contemplation. Public health, in both rural and urban parts, is receiving the due attention of the Durbar. Every effort is made to eradicate the epidemics, and adequate preventive measures are taken against the plague. The people readily recognize the importance of vaccination. For the purpose of satisfactory administration of the towns and the country areas, there are ninety Municipalities and 175 Unions, and the total expenditure from the Local Funds amounts to nearly thirty lakhs per annum. More than a third of this sum is spent on public works, about a sixth on education, and a similar amount on sanitation.

Mysore is one of the most advanced States in the matter of education. Though much has yet to be done in the direction of the spread of elementary education to the masses, it is a subject which has not escaped the serious consideration of His Highness's Government; and steps, it is believed, will soon be taken to widen its sphere. But as regards higher education, the Durbar has done a great deal, and has fully realized its responsibilities in the matter. Provision is made in the budget for an expenditure of nearly fifteen lakhs during the current year for educational purposes, and this amount forms 6 per cent. or one-seventeenth of the total revenue. The Central College at Bangalore, the Maharajah's College and the Maharani's College at Mysore, the different high schools in the districts, all carry the benefits of higher education to the upper and middle classes. There are about 2,500 public and nearly 2,000 private institutions. The Maharani's College for girls at Mysore is an excellent institution of the kind, and has done much for the dissemination of higher education among women. It was visited by His late Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor in 1889, who was immensely pleased with what he saw, and he expressed his intention "of informing the Queen of the progress of this model school." His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda was also equally satisfied with its success. Sir Roper Lethbridge remarked that it stood absolutely in the van of female education in India, and owing so much as it did to the Maharajah's enlightened care and interest, might well be regarded by His Highness as one of the brightest jewels in his Crown. The first grade Colleges at Bangalore and Mysore are excellently equipped and turn out splendid work. The State has also recognised its responsibility in imparting religious and moral instruction in all schools under its care. Special

attention is paid to manual and kindergarten training. An educational museum is maintained by the Durbar, and the claims of technical, agricultural, and industrial education are duly attended to. Quite an interesting and a very useful institution in Bangalore is the Tata Research Institute, a monument of the enlightened philanthropy of the late Mr. J. N. Tata. The buildings for it have been completed, and the institute has got into excellent working order, under the expert direction of Dr. Travers, F. R. S. It is expected to do immense service to the country as a centre of scientific research and post-graduate study.

What follows is a retrospect of the State from 1881-1911 as given by the Dewan, Mr. Visvesvariah, at the Mysore Representative Assembly held on the 11th October 1913:—

The population dependent on agriculture which in 1881 was 38 lakhs rose to 42 lakhs in 1911. As regards agriculture, the occupied area, excluding coffee, amounted to 4,213,505 acres in 1881-82 and 7,488,463 acres in 1911-12. The increase is 79 per cent. The growth of agriculture since the Rendition has been extensive, but not intensive. The total revenues of the State which amounted to about 50 lakhs at the beginning of the last century was 101 lakhs in 1880-81, and it rose to 247 lakhs in 1910-11, including what is known as "fortuitous revenue" from the Gold Mines. Land Revenue has increased from 69 to 106½ lakhs, Excise from 10 to 43·69 lakhs, and Forest from 7 to 21 lakhs. The expenditure also has more than doubled, viz., from 101 lakhs in 1880 81 to 228 lakhs in 1910-11. The charges against Land Revenue have increased from 14 to 21 lakhs, Excise from a small sum of Rs. 18,000 to over 3 lakhs, Forest from 2 lakhs to nearly 7 lakhs, Law and Justice including Jails from 6 to 8½ lakhs, Education (from provincial revenues) from 1·50 to 10·58 lakhs, Medical from 1·68 to 7·20 lakhs, and Public Works from 10 to 30 lakhs. The railways which were only 50 miles in 1880-81 rose to 411 miles in 1910-11 and the capital outlay on them in the same period from 25 to 250 lakhs. The mileage of provincial roads has nearly doubled since the Rendition. Among other public works may be mentioned the extension of channel irrigation in the Cauvery and Kapani valleys, restoration and repairs to numerous tanks and the construction of two great public works, viz., the Cauvery Power Scheme and the Marikanave reservoir. The Cities of Bangalore and Mysore were extended and improved. The expenditure on education from all sources rose from Rs. 3,91,028 in 1880-81 to Rs. 18,79,185 in 1910-11 ; the cost of education per head from Re. 0-1-6 to Re. 0-5-4. The school-going population has increased from 58,872 in 1880-81 to 138,158 in 1910-11 or nearly three times. A few industries, small and large, including the gold mines of Kolar and the manganese mines of Shimoga and a few cotton and other mills have come into existence. But most of these are unconnected with local enterprise and, in themselves, afford no evidence of the progress of the people either in technical knowledge or co-operative spirit.

Lastly, it must not be forgotten that all these improvements and reforms have been due to the unceasing industry, unerring foresight, and steady statesmanship of the great Ministers, who, as Dewans of the State, have steered it successfully to this haven of glory. From the time of the Rendition, six men have adorned the office ; and where all have been so very successful, it would be invidious to single out any one for special praise. As regards both duration of service and the consequent greatness of achievements, the term of office of Sir K. Seshadri Iyer stands out conspicuous in the public esteem, while the large-hearted generosity of that gentleman's great soul, could it now speak, would readily concede how much he owed to the teaching and example of his predecessor, Mr. Rangacharlu. His successors, Sir P. N. Krishnamoorthi, Mr. V. P. Madhava Rao, C. I. E., and Mr. T. Ananda Rao, C. I. E., have all gone on the same path of progress and development so ably chalked out for them by the first two Dewans. Let us hope that by the time the latest addition to this galaxy, we mean Sir. M. Visvesvariah, K.C.I.E., lays down his office, he will render an account which will not in any way fall short of the popular expectations of him from his previous career.

This account of the present Ruler of Mysore will not be complete without a reference to the great support His Highness has always received from the hands of his affectionate brother, His Highness the Yuvarajah, G.C.I.E., whose co-operation with the Maharajah has been most loyal and enthusiastic in all his activities calculated to secure the happiness of his people. The Yuvarajah was born in 1888. He received his early education under Mr. S.M. Fraser, along with the Maharajah in the Royal School till 1902, when he joined the Rajkumar College, Ajmer. Serious illness prevented him from remaining there longer than twenty months. On returning to Mysore he placed himself under the training of Lt. R. J. Heale, and learned English, Hindustani, Sanskrit and Canarese. In 1901 he made a long tour in Burma, and seven years later, he travelled through Hong Kong, Shanghai and Japan. In 1910 he married the accomplished daughter of the late Mr. Dalavai Devaraja Urs, Councillor to His Highness the Maharajah. His Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor readily recognized his merit by conferring on him the distinction of K. C. I. E. at the Delhi Durbar of 1911. He was made a G. C. I. E. on the 1st January 1915. The Prince proceeded to England in the middle of 1913 and returned home on the 5th October of the same year. While at Glasgow, His Highness and suite were entertained at dinner by the Magistrates, when the Chairman, in proposing "The Yuvarajah of Mysore," among several other things, observed that their guest showed that day not only a deep interest in some of the more advanced

problems connected with the Government of a great community but displayed a practical knowledge of the history and development of such enterprises as sewage disposal and electric power, which was not surprising to those who knew what Mysore itself had done in these and kindred directions. He added that the enlightened administration which characterized the Province was due to the far-sighted wisdom, not only of the Maharajah and Yuvarajah, but also of a series of exceptionally able native ministers, whose persistent efforts had given the State of Mysore public works, hospitals, and research laboratories unsurpassed for their efficiency and equipment in India. The Yuvarajah, in responding to the toast, said in conclusion that he did not think there was any level-headed Indian who did not acknowledge that the presence of the English people in India was for the benefit of that country ; that the Indians had their own feelings and desires, and, provided they got fair play, they might be counted on to stand on their side just as much as any other part of the British Empire ; that good understanding, sympathy, and true partnership were the keynotes of harmony and cohesion in any community ; and that meetings of that description would have the most salutary effect of achieving such results.

On his arrival at Bangalore from Europe, the Yuvarajah, who received addresses of welcome from several representative bodies, observed in the course of his replies :—

The high state of civilization and the steady progress which the West maintains as compared with the lethargy and conservatism of the East cannot but produce a most striking impression upon the mind of any visitor from our land, an impression which at first is almost apt to cause a feeling of depression amounting to pessimism when our state of things is reviewed. To leave things entirely to fate to shape and mould our future is inconsistent with the progress and achievement of our ideals. We shall never rise out of mediocrity among nations unless we have unlimited faith in the power of our personal efforts to raise and transform our country. The opportunity for work is most ripe now with the prevalence of abiding peace in the country under the ægis of Great Britain. Nature has blessed us in Mysore with a good climate and endowed us with mineral and other natural resources, and now that I can claim to have seen other parts of the world, I feel proud of the fact that our country compares most favourably with several of the most advanced parts of the world, and the fault must be greatly ours if we did not make the country what it should be. The people are poor, not because they are good, but because they are weak, thriftless, disunited and indolent. Unless our society is purged of a great many cliques and creeds, with habits based on merely traditional but not rational grounds, we have no chances of progress towards the homogeneity of the masses, and unless our women are raised from

the level of non-entities to that of partners in the truest and fullest sense of that term, we shall remain bereft of half our strength, we shall remain weak and miss a gentle and ennobling influence upon life.

His Highness the Yuvarajah opened the third Provincial Conference of Co-operative Societies in Mysore, on the 6th October 1913, and said that quite recently he had the pleasure of meeting Sir Horace Plunkett in Dublin who was one of the foremost co-operators in the world. From conversations with him, he was confirmed in his opinion that co-operation was the principal remedy for the economic inefficiency of India. The condition of Ireland, which was almost similar to theirs, was being rapidly improved under co-operative methods, and he had no doubt that their efforts would effect a similar transformation in the condition of their rural population. On the 11th idem, when the Yuvarajah declared the Education Court of the Mysore Dusserah Exhibition open, he deprecated cramming and extolled the importance of moral, physical, commercial, and industrial culture, which have made western countries what they are to-day.

The Prince is well educated, is a good sportsman, and takes a leading part in all the public movements in Mysore. His forte is engineering, in which branch of knowledge he evinces a keen and practical interest.

Nothing will be more fitting to conclude this brief sketch with than a reference to the appreciation of His Highness's Government by His Excellency Lord Hardinge in the splendid State Banquet speech delivered on the 6th November 1913. In it His Lordship, after congratulating His Highness on the financial success of the electric power scheme and on the immence potentialities of the Kannambadi water scheme, referred in terms of eulogy to the enlightened educational policy of the Durbar and announced with great pleasure the substitution of a new Treaty for the old Instrument of Transfer, which is calculated to strengthen the bond of loyalty and allegiance of the State to the Imperial Throne, and which is a striking proof of the regard and esteem in which His Highness is held by those responsible for the government of this great Empire. To quote a few sentences from the Viceroy's memorable Banquet speech :

........On every side there are signs of material and moral progress and development, the result of good administration...I learn with great satisfaction that the Co-operative Credit Movement has expanded and developed and is bringing relief to the indebtedness of the peasant, that an Institute of Public Health and a School of Hygeine have been established in which Sanitary Inspectors are receiving training, and that an industrial survey of the State has been undertaken with good results in the form of improvement of various indigenous industries. This is the true Swadeshi movement and I wish it all success............I must congratulate Your Highness too upon your enlightened

educational policy. Under your fostering care education is making rapid progress. Your Government have recently sanctioned a generous programme which includes provision for a large extension of primary education, measures to supply teachers possessed of higher qualifications, increased grants for female education, and an experimental boarding house for Panchamas at Mysore. At the same time a special Committee assembled in 1910 to consider the improvement of industrial education is bearing fruit in schemes for a Technical Institute at Mysore, and a Mechanical Engineering School and a Commercial School at Bangalore, where progress will be made on tentative lines.........Some four months ago Your Highness wrote me a letter in which you took exception to certain features in the Instrument of Transfer of 1881, under which the Government of Mysore was restored to Your Highness's father, and you urged that the document should be revised both in substance and in form in such a manner as to indicate more appropriately the relations subsisting between the British Government and the State of Mysore. After a very careful consideration of the question I have decided, with the concurrence of His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to substitute for the Instrument of Transfer a new Treaty which will place the relations between us on a footing more in consonance with Your Highness's actual position among the Feudatory Chiefs of India.

His Highness the Maharajah Sir Krishnaraja Wadiyar Bahadur, G.C S.I., who is entitled to a hereditary salute of twenty-one guns, rules over the extensive Province of Mysore with toleration and wisdom. He looks into things himself and confers the offices and dignities of the State on competent and deserving sons of the land. He is liberal and progressive in his ideas, and his vision carries him far into the future. His public utterances have always been characterised by sanity of thought, sobriety of expression, and soundness of judgement. The speeches of the Maharajah reveal to us his wonderful grasp of the great problems of the day. Mysore has justly been called a model Native State, and there is every reason to believe that His Highness will keep up the reputation of his Principality for steady progress and enlightenment, and that his own career will not be less brilliant than that of any of his famous predecessors.



H. H. THE MAHARAJAH OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

MAJOR-GENERAL HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SIR PRATAP SINGH BAHADUR, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., MAHARAJAH OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

KASHMIR is one of the loveliest spots in India. The grand mountain ranges, the beautiful glades and forests, the charming lakes and thermal springs and the fine natural scenery, all combine to add to the picturesqueness of the northernmost province. The Kashmir Valley with a great variety of plants is perhaps the finest portion of the Maharajah's dominions. The soil is rich in fertility, and fruits and food plants grow in abundance. The State of Kashmir comprising the territories of Jammu, the Kashmir Valley, the frontier districts of Ladakh and its adjacent tracts and Gilgit, owns the sway of H. H. the Maharajah Sir Pratap Singh, the third in succession to the founder of the State, Maharajah Gulab Singh. The area over which the sovereignty of the present Maharajah extends, covers about 88,000 square miles with a population of three millions. The subjects of His Highness speak a variety of dialects (about thirteen in all), Dogri, Kashmiri, Pahari, Punjaubi, Balti, Pushtoo, Persian, Ladakhi and other languages. Among the people who live, or ordinarily carry on business within the limits of the Jammu and Kashmir State, may be found, Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, Mahomedans, Buddhists, Christians and Parsis.

Though much is not known of the early history of Kashmir, yet sufficient light is thrown upon it by the Rajatharangani, a celebrated Sanskrit work, written in the early part of the twelfth century. The Rajavalipataka, another of the oriental chronicles that brings the record down to 1856, also affords much useful information. The family legend of the house of Jammu shows that the first scion of the Solar dynasty who came over from Ayhodya, was Agni Giri. His descendant, Jambu Lochan, was the ancestor of the present Jammu Rajahs. Later on Daya Karn who was one of the sons of Jambu Lochan, conquered Kashmir and became its ruler. The rule established by him has continued in his line for fifty-two generations. In the middle of the

eighteenth century the Chief of Jammu was the well-known Ranjit Dev, son of Rajah Dhrub Dev. Ranjit Dev had three brothers of whom the youngest was Surat Singh. Maharajah Gulab Singh was the great grandson of the latter. After Ranjit Dev's death his principality was thrown into confusion by civil wars, a condition in which it remained for about half a century. While in the service of the Lahore Durbar, Rajah Gulab Singh subdued Jammu and its adjacent hill states, and was consequently rewarded with the hereditary chiefship of Jammu.

Archæological remains of temples, pillars and massive buildings that have survived the ravages of time, and the records left by oriental historians, show that the authority of Asoka, the greatest Buddhist ruler of India, extended as far as Kashmir about 250 B. C. With the re-assertion of orthodox Brahminism, Buddhism gradually lost its ground. Avantivarman who reigned successfully between 855 and 883 A. D., did much towards the consolidation of the country. The massive ruins of the ancient buildings in Avantipura(a town founded after his name) bear witness to "the most imposing monuments of ancient Kashmir architecture and sufficiently attest the resources of the builder." Many were the great things accomplished in his reign, but what was delayed of execution was a scheme to prevent floods and to drain the valley, quite similar to a project which has since engaged the attention of the Kashmir Durbar under the supervision of Lieutenant Colonel A. C. Joly De Lotbiniere, R. E., C. S. I.

In 1339 we hear of Sha Mir, who founded a Mahomedan dynasty by deposing the widow of the last Hindu ruler. Zain-ul-ab-ud-din who ruled from 1420 to 1470, was a virtuous and liberal king. So great was his tolerance towards Hindus and so full his sympathy for them that he ordered repairs of their temples to be undertaken, and strove to revive their learning. In 1586 Kashmir was added to the principalities under the sway of Akbar, and his successor Jehangir was equally attached to Kashmir, as a proof of which he laid out the two pleasure-gardens, known as Shalimar and Nishat Baughs.

When the power of the Moghul Empire began to wane, the Governors set themselves up as independent chiefs and began to rule in a high-handed manner. Kashmir gradually came under the tyrannical yoke of the Afghans whose rapacious agents extorted as much money as they could from the dwellers in the valley. They revived the hateful poll-tax on the Hindus who in consequence, either left the country for good, or were driven into the fold of Islam. The rest of the Hindu population eagerly looked up to Ranjit Singh, the lion of the Punjaub, for succour. Thereupon in 1819 the latter annexed Kashmir to his dominions with the aid of Rajah Gulab Singh of

Jammu. But by this time only one-tenth of the people still adhered to Hinduism, the remaining large majority having become Mahomedans. This change of rulership did not bring any relief to the Kashmiris ; but on the contrary there came with it a train of miseries. They were weighed down with heavy taxation, oppression and cruelty. Scarcely had Ranjit Singh died when there was a mutiny in the Sikh army, resulting in the murder of the Governor of Kashmir in 1841. Rajah Gulab Singh himself repaired to Kashmir, and with an army of 5,000 people, quelled the mutiny, restored order, appointed a Governor of his own, and became the virtual master of the valley.

Gulab Singh, a Dogra Rajput, was born about 1788, and his ancestors had their original home either in Oudh or Rajputana. They eventually moved to the Panjaub, and remained permanently at Mirpur in the Dogra country. His forefathers were Rajputs whose sole pursuit was war. The whole family branched off into three divisions, the first group made Chamba its headquarters, the second went away to Kangra, and the third, the family to which Gulab Singh belonged, settled down at Jammu. Gulab Singh took up service under Ranjit Singh, the Sikh Ruler, and satisfied him in all possible ways. The latter conferred Jammu on Gulab Singh with the title of Rajah. Dhyan Singh (Gulab Singh's brother) was made the Rajah of Poonch, and the third brother, Rajah of Ramnagar. Within fifteen years Gulab Singh was able to extend his control over Jammu and the neighbouring principalities, not excluding Ladakh and Baltistan. He wielded great power in Kashmir, though the territory was still under the direct control of a separate Governor.

Anarchy followed the death of Ranjit Singh in 1839. His son, Sher Singh, went against Lahore and seized the government in 1841. He was shot dead by Gulab Singh's younger brother Dhyan Singh, who in his turn was murdered by a Sikh chieftain. The Punjaub was now entirely under the control of army committees. While yet a child of six years, Dulip Singh was placed on the throne. He subsequently resided in England as an exile. Again the army controlled the destinies of the State, while Hira Singh, the son of Dhyan Singh and nephew of Gulab Singh, was minister but in name. He made himself unpopular with the army committees—an unpopularity that cost him his life. The mother of Dulip Singh assisted by the Minister Lall Singh and the Commander-in-Chief Tej Singh, assumed control of the government and proceeded against British territory. On the 18th December 1845 an indecisive battle was fought at Mudki; on the 21st idem was fought another battle at Ferozeshah in which Lord Hardinge, the Governor-General, himself took part, and the British won a

victory but at considerable sacrifice. This victory had the effect of arresting the onward march of the opponents, but in the decisive battle of Aliwal on the 28th January 1846, the Lahore Government suffered a serious discomfiture. After the battle of Sobraon on the 10th February, negotiations became possible, and the treaty of Lahore was concluded on the 9th March.

The Sikhs ceded to the English all the hilly country between the Beas and the Indus, including the provinces of Kashmir and Hazara; and in consideration of the services rendered by Rajah Gulab Singh of Jammu to the Lahore State, towards establishing amity between the Lahore and British Governments, the British agreed to recognise the independent sovereignty of Rajah Gulab Singh in such territories and districts as might be made over to him under a separate agreement between himself and the British Government. His share would include also those dependencies that had been in the Rajah's possession since the days of the late Maharajah Khurruk Singh. Further the British Government in appreciating the good conduct of the Rajah, agreed to recognise his independence in such territories and to admit him to the privileges of a separate treaty with them.

On the 16th March 1846, the separate treaty with Gulab Singh was signed by which the British Government made over for ever to Maharajah Gulab Singh and his heirs-male all the hilly and mountainous country, with its dependencies, situated to the east of the river Indus and west of the river Ravi, including Chamba and excluding Lahoul, being part of the territories ceded to the British Government by the Lahore State. In return for this transfer Gulab Singh was to pay the British Government seventy-five lakhs of rupees, and in acknowledgment of their supremacy he was to present them annually with one horse, twelve perfect shawl-goats of approved breed (six male and six female) and three pairs of Kashmir shawls. He pledged himself to unite the whole of his forces with the British troops, when employed within the hills or in the territories adjoining his possessions, while on their part the British Government agreed to aid Maharajah Gulab Singh in protecting his territories from external enemies.

The Governor appointed by the Sikh Government was not disposed to hand over the province to Maharajah Gulab Singh, but attacked the Maharajah's troops with the aid of the feudatory chiefs. His Highness applied to the English for help, when they sent an army under Sir Henry Lawrence. With the support of the British Government, he finally established his rule over Kashmir in 1846. On his ascending the throne he found its internal management quite unsatisfactory.

Assessment and collection of revenues did not go forward, and there was much corruption in the province. The state of affairs did not improve, and when His Highness died in 1857, things were no better than what they were at the commencement of his reign. He was succeeded by his son Maharajah Ranbir Singh whose services to the British Government during the Mutiny of 1857, were beyond all praise, and merited special recognition. The British Government offered an *Ilaka* in the Province of Oudh to the Maharajah in consideration of his loyal aid; but he respectfully declined to accept any such offer, declaring that he had come forward to share the burden of the campaign as a true friend and devoted ally of the British Government and not as a mercenary prompted by love of gain. Lord Lawrence, the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, in addition to several other marks of recognition shown to the Maharajah, assured His Highness that in the event of failure of heirs and absence of any formal adoption, his wishes in regard to the succession of a collateral relation, would be respected. The Maharajah was later on exempted from the payment of a tribute, and was raised to a higher rank than that held by most Indian Princes and Chiefs. Maharajah Ranbir Singh was very popular with his subjects as well as with the English. His character and private life were above reproach; he was well-known for his manliness and sportsman-like habits. He was easy of access to his subjects whose petitions he received in open durbar and whose grievances he redressed with promptitude and fairness.

Major-General His Highness the Maharajah Sir Pratap Singh, the great grandson of Maharajah Gulab Singh and eldest son of Maharajah Ranbir Singh, was born in 1850 A.D. As a child he was the pet of his grandfather. When he grew older, he studied Sanskrit, and besides acquiring a general knowledge of Law, Science and Medicine, gained acquaintance with English literature. After completing his preliminary course of education, he was given a practical training even to the minutest details, in the Revenue, Judicial and Military Departments. Swimming, wrestling and horsemanship are his chief recreations. Since his youth he has displayed a very keen interest in cricket and even at this advanced age, he has not ceased to take delight in the game. Like his father and grandfather His Highness is an orthodox Hindu, and spends his mornings and evenings in the performance of religious ceremonies. He has a scrupulous regard for the customs of his people, and shows a pious deference to the rites enjoined by the Hindu religion and the traditions of his house. His Highness succeeded to the *gadi* on the death of his illustrious father in September 1885, while he was in his thirty-fifth year. His reign

is memorable for the useful reforms successfully inaugurated in the civil and military administration of the State.

Among the reforms which have been carried out since his accession, may be mentioned the introduction of payment of salaries to State officials monthly instead of quarterly and half-yearly; the revision and increase of pay to old officials; the improved methods of keeping State accounts; the abolition of the revenue farming system, of export duty on certain goods, and of other duties known as Zarnaksh, Nausakht and Rawangi, and also of the system of Begar as well as the Dharamarth cess, the temple cess, the education cess and the like, and of the Mahomedan marriage tax; the establishment of Municipalities at Jammu and Srinagar; the suppression of kidnapping which was formerly in vogue; the introduction of land settlement on the British Indian model; the organization of the Imperial Service troops and reorganization of the Military Department, and the extension of the North-Western Railway line from Sailkot to Jammu.

Before these reforms could be introduced or pushed through, there happened events that hindered for a time the carrying out of the programme. During the early years of His Highness's rule, there was unpleasantness between him and the Government of India, resulting in the voluntary resignation by the Maharajah of his powers for five years. The Province was then governed by a State Council, at first under the presidency of Rajah Amar Singh, the youngest brother of the present Maharajah, and subsequently from the Sambat year 1949 (1893-94), under that of the Maharajah himself. The insignia of the Order of G. C. S. I., was conferred upon the Maharajah in 1892, and in 1896 he was raised to the honorary rank of Major-General. In October 1905, His Highness was invested with enhanced powers, and the Council was abolished.

Maharajah Sir Pratap Singh sent his army to fight shoulder to shoulder with the British troops on the occasion of the Black Mountain, the Tirah and the Agror Valley expeditions. On each of these occasions the services rendered by the troops of His Highness the Maharajah, elicited warm appreciation. In the Tirah campaign the Maharajah's battery made a name for their remarkable activity, vigilance and valour. His Highness's two brothers, Rajah Sir Ram Singh K.C.B., and Rajah Sir Amar Singh, K.C.S.I., both of whom are no more, rendered very valuable assistance to the State. The elder of these two, Rajah Sir Ram Singh who was well known for his soldierly habits, looked after the State forces with conspicuous ability and success, while the youngest, Rajah Sir Amar Singh, K. C. S. I. aided the administration in various ways, both as Vice-President of the State Council, and as Chief Minister and Commander-in-Chief,

after the abolition of the Council in 1905. The brothers were of great help to His Highness the Maharajah in all the reforms he had set on foot in his government. Of the three brothers Rajah Sir Amar Singh alone was blessed with a son, Hari Singh, who is now nineteen years old. The Prince is undergoing a course of training in the Mayo College, Ajmere.

The Maharajah administers the State, assisted by his three Ministers in charge of the Revenue, Judicial and Home Departments respectively. The four chief executive officers are the Governor of Hakim-i-Ala of Jammu, the Governor of Kashmir, the Wazir Wazarat of Gilgit and the Wazir Wazarat of Ladakh. European and American specialists are invariably employed in the important departments of the State. The British Government has also lent the services of some of its tried officials, the chief among them being the Accountant-General who controls the finances of the State.

Several improvements in the resources of the country and the modes of administration, have been effected during the last decade. The survey for a further extension of the Railway up to Srinagar, the starting of water works in the towns of Jammu and Srinagar as well as the electrical installation for lighting the latter, the opening of canals in extension of irrigation, the important conservancy and sanitary arrangements throughout the State together with the many changes in the Revenue and the Judicial departments, are the principal measures of administrative reform.

The judicial administration is under the control of the Judicial Minister who is virtually the supreme tribunal. There is a Chief Court at Jammu exercising all civil and criminal powers. An appeal lies from this court to the Judicial Minister. Occasionally a second appeal may be preferred to the Maharajah himself. All death sentences passed by the Chief Judge, are, however, subject to the confirmation of the Maharajah. The Police force consists of three Assistant Superintendents, nine Inspectors, 297 subordinate officers and 1,213 constables. The State maintains them at an annual cost of about two lakhs and a half. There is also a training school for the police. The duties of the police in villages are performed by chaukidars. There are two central jails, one at Jammu and the other at Srinagar, besides seven smaller jails. The army of the State consists of two mountain batteries, one horse artillery, one garrison battery, one squadron Kashmir lancers, one troop body-guard cavalry, seven regiments of infantry and four companies of sappers and miners. Out of a total strength of 6,283, the Durbar maintains a force of 3,370 Imperial Service Troops.

There are in the province an Arts College at Srinagar, two high schools, one normal school, seven anglo-vernacular and twelve vernacular middle schools, and about one hundred and fifty primary schools. At

Srinagar there are in addition three girls' schools, maintained by the State, two aided high schools and one aided middle school; and at Jammu one aided girls' school and another aided middle school. There are two Sanskrit schools at Jammu and Srinagar. About 12,000 pupils are altogether under instruction. The Durbar awards seventeen scholarships for collegiate study at Lahore, two technical scholarships for foreign study in useful arts, and twenty-three stipends for normal training.

There are two municipal committees, one at Srinagar and the other at Jammu. During winter the vaccination staff works in Jammu, and during summer, at Kashmir. Conservancy establishments are also maintained by the State, and are under the direct supervision of the municipal committees. Medical relief is afforded by two State hospitals, two dispensaries and one leper asylum at Srinagar, and two hospitals at Jammu and two military hospitals, at Jammu and in Satwari cantonment. Besides, there are altogether forty-three dispensaries in the State.

The construction of the Gilgit road at a cost of fifteen lakhs to the Durbar, is indeed a remarkable achievement, because it affords considerable travelling and trading facilities. Prominent among the industries of the province are fruit culture and sericulture. Kashmir is called 'a country of fruits' and has great facilities for horticulture. The indigenous apple, pear, vine, mulberry, walnut, hazel, cherry, peach, apricot, raspberry, gooseberry, currant and strawberry grow in abundance. If pursued on modern scientific lines, the industry has a great future before it. For ages past Kashmir has been noted for its silk industry. About 110,000 ℔ of raw silk is annually produced, and the profit is about five lakhs per annum. Kashmir long known for its excellent shawls has, of late years, shown signs of decay in the industry; and carpet woven with the same fine wool, has now taken the place of the famous shawl. The city of Srinagar is noted for its silver, copper and wood carving, and lacquer works.

His Highness the Maharajah Bahadur on the occasion of the birthday of His Most Gracious Majesty, King Edward VII, on the 28th June 1907, in open durbar, spoke as follows:—

"Pleasant are to me the constant recollections of His Gracious Majesty, as I happened to have enjoyed the great honour and privilege of being known to and having entertained him personally, when he visited Jammu as the Prince of Wales in my father's time just thirty years ago; and in view of my inner-most feelings of devotion, loyalty and attachment to His Imperial Majesty's person and Throne, happiest to me is the day when I have the honour to celebrate the birthday of the most dearly loved Sovereign, in which I have asked you, Ladies and Gentlemen, to join me this evening. We all of us know how deeply His Majesty has endeared himself alike to the great and the small rulers and the people, by his constant

and earnest efforts in the interest of the worlds's peace, and his eager desire to do everything in his power to promote the intellectual and physical well-being of his subjects throughout the vast dominions of the British Empire over which the sun never sets. His sympathy towards the Native States of India and their rulers, and his keen interest in their welfare, are well-known, which sympathy—it is a matter of much gratification for us all—was fully shared by Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. I sincerely pray that the Great Giver of all good may spare His Imperial Majesty for many years to continue a prosperous reign which has already been productive of lasting benefits not only to the British Empire but to the whole world. May he live long, happy in his most esteemable family, happier in the deep and sincere affection of his people, and happiest in the memory of his noble and useful life."

Of the most important steps taken recently by the present administration towards the amelioration of the condition of the people and the development of the resources of the country, mention may be made of the following:—the formation of a scheme for the application of the water power so largely available in Kashmir, to industrial purposes and its consequent adoption in J. P. Station; the project for railway lines to be laid between Jammu and Srinagar; the carrying on of sericulture operations on an extensive scale and the preservation of mulberry plantation; the leasing out of forests to be worked by private individuals paying royalty to the State, and the adoption of a similar policy in regard to mines and minerals; the opening of model agricultural farms; the preservation of ancient monuments, historical buildings and gardens, and the encouragement of research, especially in the ancient literature and history of Kashmir; military reforms, chiefly the raising of the pay of the rank and file, and the improvement of the means of communication in order to stimulate trade.

In 1910 His Highness completed the sixtieth year of his life and the twenty-fifth year of his rule, and the happy occasion was celebrated with great *eclat* and rejoicing by his numerous subjects. His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor was pleased to confer on His Highness the distinction of G.C.I.E., at the Delhi Coronation Durbar on the 12th December 1911. At the Durbar held at Jammu on the 12th January 1912, His Highness announced some concessions, *viz.*, the right of a partially elective system to the Jammu and Kashmir Municipality; the allotment of octroi income to Municipalities, a special grant of Rs. 5,00,000 for sanitary and other improvements; an additional grant of Rs. 25,000 annually for the expansion and improvement of primary education among the Mahomedan and Hindu subjects; the raising of the estates of tenants-at-will in the State to that of occupancy, and remission of tenants' arrears known as "Bakaya jins quillajat." Some literary pensions and prizes were also announced.

Soon after the outrage at Delhi on the 23rd December 1912, His Highness the Maharajah of Kashmir was the foremost of the Ruling Chiefs present there to offer a reward of ten thousand rupees for the arrest of the culprit. His Highness, who presided over the public meeting to express abhorrence at the dastardly attempt, made the following speech :—

GENTLEMEN.—We have met here this afternoon to express our abhorrence and detestation of the dastardly attempt which has been made upon the life of our popular Viceroy, Lord Hardinge, the representative of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor of India. His Excellency has endeared himself to the Princes and people of India by his genuine sympathy towards them, and by his beneficent, enlightened and progressive rule

The Durbar which His Imperial Majesty was pleased to hold in this Imperial town last December and the administrative changes which the King-Emperor announced in person marked an epoch in the history of this country. These announcements filled the hearts of all loyal Indians with joy, and they rendered their most sincere and hearty thanks which were due to H. E. Lord Hardinge for advising His Imperial Majesty to raise this town to the position of the Imperial Capital of India. In accordance with, and to give effect to, His Majesty's decision and to afford the Indian people an opportunity of rejoicing on the transference of the seat of the British Government to Delhi, His Excellency had decided to mark the entry of the Government of India into Delhi by a State procession and a Durbar. We had been looking forward to this happy foundation with feelings of pleasure and pride, and yesterday when everything was going on very smoothly and nicely, we were shocked to hear that a despicable wretch had attempted to take the life of our beloved Viceroy by means of a bomb.

Gentlemen, words fail to give adequate expression to our sense of horror and indignation at this foul deed. To me the shock has been exceedingly severe, because not only do I claim the privilege of personal friendship with His Excellency, but the ties of close friendship have united the two families for more than sixty years.

The full titles of His Highness are—Major-General His Highness the Maharajah Sir Pratap Singh Indar Mahindar Bahadur Sipar-i-Saltanat, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., Maharajah of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Ruler of Kashmir is held in great esteem by the Government, and is entitled to a salute of twenty-one guns within, and nineteen guns outside, his territory. By his sympathetic and progressive administration he has been endeavouring to raise the status of his principality. Modern methods of administration are being introduced slowly but gradually into the State. A loyal chief, a staunch Hindu, and a liberal patron of arts and letters, His Highness is deeply interested in all that tends to promote the well-being of his peaceful subjects. May he be long spared to guide the destinies of this picturesque Province !

MAJOR-GENERAL HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SIR MADHO RAO SINDHIA BAHADUR, G.C.S.I., G.C.V.O., LL.D., MAHARAJAH OF GWALIOR

DESCENDED from a family that held the hereditary post of patel as a patent of rank from Emperor Aurangzeb, in Kannerkhera, a village not far from Satara in Bombay, Ranoji Sindhia founded the house o Gwalior. When in the service of Peshwa Balaji Baji Rao, Ranoji rose to prominence through sheer force of character. His undaunted courage and warlike qualities were soon recognised, and he became a favorite with the Peshwa. In appreciation of his meritorious services, he was permitted by the Peshwa to collect in the Malwa Province the taxes of Chauth and Sardeshmukhi, while retaining for his own remuneration the Mokassa (the remaining 65 per cent. of the tax). He selected the city of Ujjain for his capital, which long remained the headquarters of the Sindhia dominions. Ranoji died in 1745, leaving five sons behind him. Jayapa who succeeded him, was killed at Nagaur in 1759, and his son Jankoji ascended the throne; but he was taken prisoner at Panipat and put to death. Mahdaji Sindhia, one of the sons of Ranoji, then succeeded to the *gadi*.

From the time of Mahdaji Sindhia and of his successor Daulat Rao Sindhia, begins the modern history of Gwalior, and in the annals of British India both of them played no mean part. The treaty of Salbai in 1782, which was entered into between Mahdaji Sindhia and the English, was the turning point in the history of Gwalior. By this treaty the British were made the arbiters of peace in India and their supremacy was acknowledged, while Sindhia was recognised as an independent chief and not a vassal of the Peshwa. A British Resident was also appointed at the court of Sindhia.

By dint of energy and perseverance and through his indomitable will, Mahdaji Sindhia soon became a real power in the land, and established his supremacy all over Northern Hindustan. He was dreaded by the neighbouring powers who, however, caused him not a little trouble and anxiety. He defeated in battle the Rajputs, the Holkar and the Delhi

forces. Elated by the victory he began to wield a great influence within the Moghul dominions. He succeeded in 1785 in reinstating Emperor Shah Alam on the throne of Delhi. In return for this benevolent act the Moghul Emperor conferred on Mahdaji Sindhia the high distinction of deputy Vakil-ul-Mutlak. At the request of Mahdaji himself the title of Vakil-ul-Mutlak was also conferred on the Peshwa. Subsequently Mahdaji who was growing in power and influence, took possession of Delhi, and became virtually the protector of the aged emperor. In 1792 Mahdaji Sindhia himself invested the Peshwa with the insignia of Vakil-ul-Mutlak. Mahdaji died in 1794 at Wanowri, near Poona, and left no heir to succeed him. But Daulat Rao, the grandson of his brother Tukaji Rao, helped himself to the throne. While he gradually gained power, he could neither retain nor use it for the benefit of his subjects. It was therefore not to be wondered at that a period of unrest soon followed his reign. While Sindhia and Holkar were at war with each other, the Pindari bands stepped in and spread devastation and ruin in the country, and the whole of Central India presented a scene of utter chaos. The treaty of Bassein which was entered into in 1802 between the Peshwa and the British, and which made the latter the paramount power in India, was an effective means of crushing Sindhia's power, which was finally destroyed by the English victories at Ahmadnagar, Assaye, Asirgarh and Laswari. Daulat Rao Sindhia was now obliged to sign the treaty of Sarji Anjangaon, by which he was required to give up the forts of Gwalior and Gohad to the British. But the terms of this treaty were always a source of contention between Sindhia and the Supreme Government. Under the new policy of Lord Cornwallis, the Governor-General of India, the forts of Gwalior and Gohad were both restored to Daulat Rao Sindhia, who finally signed in 1817 the treaty of Gwalior, by which he was bound to help the English in suppressing the Pindaris.

In 1827 Daulat Rao Sindhia died leaving no heir. Once again chaos reigned supreme in the State. Lawlessness prevailed and court intrigues prevented any claimant from succeeding to the throne. At this stage the British interfered, and through their aid a Council of Regency was appointed during the minority of Jayaji Rao Sindhia, who was now placed on the throne. In 1852 the young Prince had a minister of great parts in the person of Dinkar Rao, a renowned statesman. The minister soon introduced several salutary reforms into the State, and became afterwards Rajah Sir Dinkar Rao, Mushir-i-khas Bahadur, K.C.S.I. During the troublous times of the Indian Mutiny, Maharajah Jayaji Rao Sindhia rendered very valuable assistance to the English. The British Government in 1861 conferred on His Highness the distinction of a

Grand Commander of the Star of India. Later the Maharajah was allowed a personal salute of twenty-one guns and a salute of nineteen guns outside his dominions. His Highness was further honoured with the unique title of G. C. B. He next became a Councillor of the Indian Empire. In 1886 the Gwalior Fort and the Morar Cantonment and a few villages which had passed into the possession of the British since 1858, were restored to Sindhia in exchange for the city of Jhansi. Jayaji Rao died in 1886, leaving a son ten years old. The young Prince, the present ruler of the State who was born in 1877, ascended the *gadi* with a Council of Regency that carried on the administration until 1894, when the Maharajah was invested with full powers.

Gwalior is the largest treaty State in Central India with a total area of 25,041 square miles and a population of over 3,000,000, of whom 84 per cent. are Hindus and 6 per cent. Mahomedans. Two branches of the Vindhya Range traverse the State. The Chambal in the north and the Narbada in the south, are its two principal rivers. The administrative machinery is controlled by the Maharajah assisted by the Sadar Board, consisting of seven Secretaries, each entrusted with the management of an entire department of the State. The Maharajah himself is the President of the Board, and the Chief Secretary supervises the work of all departments. Several beneficial changes have recently been introduced, which have had the effect of bringing the State more or less into line with modern methods of administration.

The normal revenue of the State is 150 lakhs per annum, excluding the 11 lakhs assigned to the Jagirdars. The revenue is derived chiefly from land, forest, opium and customs. While in former years the State enjoyed the privilege of minting and circulating its own gold, silver and copper coins, it now mints its copper coins only of the same value as the British coins; and the British rupee and its fractional coins are now accepted as the only legal tender. Gold coins are, however, struck for special purposes.

In 1888 the Sadar Adalat or High Court was established with Subordinate Courts in the divisions and districts of the State. The High Court is practically the highest tribunal of justice in all matters, civil and criminal. But all sentences of death have to receive the Maharajah's confirmation. In some special cases the Maharajah also hears appeals against the decisions of the Sadar Adalat.

Agriculture, the staple industry of the province, receives very careful attention. The State helps the ryots immensely by freely giving them loans of seed and money, and charging them a low rate of 4 per cent. interest on seed grants, and 6 per cent. on loans for digging wells and for purchasing bullocks. This system of State advances to the cultivator is not only produc-

tive of highly beneficial results, but is gradually tending to diminish the tyranny of village usurers. Jowar is the principal crop, while gram, wheat, bajra, maize, barley, arhar and rice are also cultivated. Oil-seeds, cotton, poppy and sugar-cane are extensively grown. A considerable quantity of Indian hemp is produced for the manufacture of ganja and bhang. In villages they grow the usual vegetables and tobacco. Irrigation works have been started, and the condition of the ryot has improved. The forest yields a profitable revenue, in timber, charcoal, grass, gum and lac. Iron and the Vindhyan sandstones are the chief mineral products, the latter being considered a fine building material.

The Public Works Department of the State is doing very useful work. The Gwalior Light Railway runs for about 185 miles, and is maintained by the State at an annual cost of Rs. 44,00,000, the management being vested in the G. I. P. Railway. There are at present in the State 885 miles of metalled roads. The postal department is directly under the State Post-master-General, and there are over a hundred post offices, besides Government telegraph and post offices at a dozen of the principal towns. During the severe famine of 1899-1900, which was very acute in Malwa, the State opened a large number of relief works at a cost of Rs. 38·2 lakhs, besides many poor houses; fourteen lakhs of rupees were distributed towards gratuitous relief, and large remissions were granted to cultivators. This is an eloquent testimony to the Maharajah's sympathy with the poor and the distressed.

His Highness evinces a deep and growing interest in the progress of education. There are two Arts Colleges at Lashkar (the modern capital) and Ujjain respectively, with high-schools attached to them, a high-school at Morar and 323 village schools. A Service school for training officials, a Sardars' school and a Sardars' Daughters' school for the children of the State Sardars, a Military school and an Engineering institution, are the special schools maintained by the State. The Gwalior Gazette is published every week, and contains all State orders and general news. The Jayaji Rao Hospital at Lashkar has a midwifery class attached to it, and is maintained by the State at an annual cost of nearly one lakh and a half.

While the State spends 2·4 lakhs per annum on education, military expenditure claims annually about forty-two lakhs of rupees. Very great attention is paid to military matters, and the army has three regiments of Imperial Service Cavalry, two battalions of Imperial Service Infantry and a Transport Corps. The Gwalior Transport Corps rendered admirable service in the Chitral and Tirah campaigns. The other troops include two batteries of horse artillery, three bullock batteries, one elephant battery

and a total of thirty-six guns. The army is placed under the State Commander-in-Chief, aided by a staff. Formerly the work of the police was carried on by the army, but in 1903 a regular police force, under a State Inspector-General of Police, was created on the British model. The State has three central jails, twelve district jails and pargana lock-ups. Carpets, rugs and other articles are manufactured in these jails.

Lashkar, the modern capital of Gwalior, is a fine city with several palatial buildings, and is administered by a Municipal Board. The Gwalior Fort is one of the most famous in India. It is described by an author as "The pearl in the necklace of the castles of Hind," and has figured in Indian history since the sixth century. The fort contains many objects of historical and antiquarian interest. A rock-cut temple dedicated to Sri Vishnu, bears an ancient inscription of Rajah Bhoj of Kanauj, dated 876 A.D. There are six palaces in the fort, four Hindu and two Mahomedan, besides several smaller ones, many large tanks, temples and shrines. During the long reign of Rajah Mân Singh (1486-1517) Gwalior became preeminent as the home of music, and Gwalior musicians were seen in all the principal courts. The old palace at Lashkar has been rebuilt, and is now called Maharajwara. Just below the fort are the Phul Baugh or flower gardens. The Elgin Club for the Sardars of the State, the Victoria College, the Jayaji Rao Hospital, the great Jai Bilas Palace with a fine Durbar Hall, the Moti Mahal and the General Post Office are places of interest in the city. The Chhatris or Cenotaphs of the Sindhias are good specimens of modern Hindu architecture. The Lashkar Brigade or military cantonment, not far from the city, contains the State Workshop.

The tomb of Abu Fazl, the author of the Ain-i-Akbari, at Antri; the famous caves, locally known as the Panch Pandu, of great archæological interest, at Bagh; the Gadarmal temple of mediæval Hindu architecture at Baro; the Buddhistic remains at Bhilsa and the Chain Mosque at Narod, erected during the reign of Emperor Aurangzeb, are other places of importance. Ujjain, one of the seven sacred cities of India, was long the capital of Gwalior. The town of Chanderi was formerly noted for its fine muslins, but has lost its importance, as the industry has decayed. Gwalior city was also famous for stone-carving, glazed tiles and jewellery.

The Maharajah leads an active and strenuous life. With a deep and unswerving loyalty to the British throne, he is ever ready to demonstrate more by deeds than by words his allegiance to the Sovereign Power. In 1900 the Chief himself went to China during the war. At the same time he provided a hospital-ship for the accommodation of the wounded. His martial qualities have always brought him to the front, and His Highness is ever

ready to take the field in aid of the British. The Maharajah is a G.C.V.O., and G.C.S.I., and an A.-D.-C. to His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor. His Highness holds also the rank of Honorary Colonel in the British army as well as in Skinner's Horse. He has also received the Gold Kaisar-i-Hind medal,and the University of Cambridge has conferred upon His Highness the Honorary degree of LL. D. During the recent Coronation Ceremony in June last of Their Imperial Majesties in London, His Highness made a generous gift of £8,000 for charities. The gift includes £2,000 for the King-Emperor's Hospital Fund in London, and £1,000 each for the Naval, Military, and Civil Service Charitable Funds respectively. His Highness was entitled to a salute of nineteen guns in British territory, and twenty-one guns within his own dominions. But at the Delhi Coronation Durbar of 1911, a personal salute of twenty-one guns was granted to him. In honor of Their Imperial Majesties' memorable visit to India and in commemoration of the Delhi Coronation Durbar of 1911, His Highness has generously and loyally offered to present the new Capital of India, the historic city of Delhi, with a fine statue of His Imperial Majesty King-Emperor George V.

"Scindia", writes an Anglo-Indian in *The London Observer*, "is a soldier and statesman, financier and engineer, a mighty hunter of big game and a captain of industry He is as versatile as the Kaiser, as full of energy as Mr. Roosevelt. That he manages his own important State without a Prime Minister is only the least of his activities. His great wealth is not locked up, but is put to reproductive uses, and he has been known to offer to take up an entire Government loan on his own account. He is a man of his hands, and when he builds a railway, can show his people how to drive the locomotives. Yet he is simple in his personal habits, and only those who have walked with him long hours in the moonlight "beside the big gun" on the terrace before his glorious palace, know the variety of his interests, and the piercing vision that lights his active brain. All the younger princes of India look to him for counsel and example."

When His Majesty the King-Emperor visited Gwalior as Prince of Wales in 1905, he was accorded a cordial and magnificent reception. In proposing the health of the Prince and the Princess of Wales, His Highness in the course of his speech, observed :—

"Whatever useful work has been or is being undertaken in the various departments of my State, has but one ultimate goal—to help towards the stability of the British Empire, and with that end in view to ameliorate the condition of the people over whom I am called upon to rule..........Wherever Your Highnesses travel in India, you will see on the triumphal arches and in the addresses read to you, the words 'Loyalty and devotion to the Crown.' If I say little on this subject, it is because I feel all the more deeply. My

hope and ambition is that the day may come when my army and I may, by our acts, show not only what is on our lips but in our hearts."

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales conveyed to His Highness the Maharajah "my dear father's warm messages of esteem and goodwill", and in referring to His Highness's profound loyalty and deep attachment to the British throne, the Prince said :—

"His (Maharajah's) goal is the stability of the British Empire, and to attain that goal he sees that he must strive—and indeed he is striving with all his characteristic energy—to improve the condition of his people."

His Royal Highness further added :—

"I am glad to have another message, which I am sure will please Your Highness. You have been appointed Honorary Colonel of the Indian Regiment of which I am proud to be the Colonel-in-Chief; the 1st Lancers will be as delighted as I am to welcome you as one of us."

The full titles of His Highness are :—

Major-General His Highness Mukhtar-ul-Mulk Azim-ul-Iktidar-Rafi-ush-Shan Wala Shikoh Mohtasham-i-Dauran Umdat-ul-Umara Maharajah-dhiraja Alijah Hisam-us-Saltanat Maharajah Sir Madho Rao Sindhia Bahadur Srinath Mansur-i-Zaman Fidvi-i-Hazarat-i-Malika-i-Mauzzama-i-Rafi-ud-Darja-i-Inglishtan, G.C.S.I.,G.C.V.O., LL.D.,Maharajah of Gwalior, A.-D.-C. to His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor.

The Maharajah owns an extensive territory, and young as he is, he has enjoyed rare honours. His administration has been highly successful, and his subjects are loyal, contented, peaceful and happy. His Highness has before him a long, bright and prosperous future, and it is to be hoped that, under his able guidance, Gwalior will take a distinguished place among the enlightened States of India.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH
SIR SRI RAMA VARMA BAHADUR, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.,
MAHARAJAH OF TRAVANCORE

RICH in natural scenery, fertile in soil, never failing in its seasonal rainfall, Travancore is one of the most picturesque spots on earth. It is popularly known as Keralam or Malayalam, and it covers a total area of 7091 square miles with a population of 34,28,975 in 1911, of whom two-thirds are Hindus, one-fourth Christians and one-sixteenth Mahomedans. Over one-half of the total area is covered by hills and forests. The latter yield valuable timber such as teak, blackwood and ebony, while the land produces rice in abundance, which is the staple food of the country. The mighty Western Ghats that skirt the province, ensure a never-failing supply of water, and thus protect the country against the ravages of famine. The average annual rainfall is about 90 inches and the whole region is fed by a large number of rivers and streams. The navigable back-waters of the province serve to promote commercial prosperity. No better description of the State can be given than in the eloquent words of Lord Curzon: "Here nature has spent upon the land her richest bounties; the sun fails not by day, the rain falls in due season, drought is practically unknown, and an eternal summer gilds the scene."

Of the early history of Travancore, little is known. Tradition ascribes its foundation to Sage Parasurama who is said to have brought a Prince, named Bhanu, from the East Coast to rule over the State. It is an undisputed fact that Travancore has had an uninterrupted succession of Hindu sovereigns from remote antiquity. After Parasurama, the Brahmin colonists gradually rose to power and became the virtual rulers of the province. Dissensions having broken out in their ranks, Keya Perumal from Keyapuram was invited to govern the State. The Perumal dynasty consisting of twenty-five Perumals, lasted for over two centuries from 216 A.D. to 428 A. D. One of the most famous in the line was Kulasekhara Perumal, otherwise known as Saint Kulasekhara Alwar, venerated by the Vaishnavite

sect. He is said to have reigned in peace and glory, and his name finds a permanent place in the hereditary titles of the rulers of Travancore. The last of these Perumals was Cheraman Perumal who divided the kingdom among his relations. Later on, the territory fell an easy prey to the Cholas, and later still to the Pandyas. But the conquerors from the east coast were not long allowed to enjoy their supremacy undisturbed, as the local chiefs broke out into revolt and wrested their lost possessions from the foreign rulers. Subsequent to the battle of Talikota in 1565, the State became feudatory to the Naik Kings of Madura. About the middle of the eighteenth century, Maharajah Martanda Varma, the maker of modern Travancore, subdued all the petty chiefs who had set up independent rule within the State, and ascended the *musnad* as the overlord. He dedicated Travancore to Sri Padmanabha Swami. He was ably assisted by Rama Ayyan Dalawa, his Chief Minister, who was also the Commander-in-Chief of the State army. In 1761 Rama Varma who succeeded Martanda Varma, constructed the historic Travancore lines. Haider Ali tried to take the State twice, but was repulsed through the aid of the Dutch. Tippu (son of Haider) also made two efforts to conquer the State, but without success. The British connection with Travancore begins from 1684, when the East India Company established a factory at Anjengo not far from Trivandram. In 1795 a treaty was entered into between the Maharajah and the Honourable East India Company, by which the latter agreed to protect the State from all foreign aggression.

Rama Varma was succeeded by his nephew Rajah Balarama Varma who proved a weak ruler. There were intrigues in the court, and an attempted insurrection was prevented in time. In 1805 another treaty was concluded with the British by which the annual subsidy to be paid by the State was fixed at eight lakhs. On the death of Balarama Varma, Rani Lakshmi Bai came to the throne, but left the administration solely in the hands of Colonel J. Munro, the Resident. When the Rani died in 1815, she was succeeded by Rama Varma II, a child, during whose minority Rani Parvathi Bai, sister of the late queen, acted as Regent. Rama Varma took the reins of Government in 1829, and during his successful reign of seventeen years, several administrative reforms were carried out, and the people were on the whole contented and happy. In 1846 Martanda Varma, his younger brother, succeeded him. After him came in 1862 his nephew, Rama Varma III. Earl Canning, the Governor-General and Viceroy of India, gave him the *sanad*, and allowed him the right of adoption in case of failure of natural heirs. The Rajah died in 1880, and was succeeded in 1885 by his brother,

Maharajah Rama Varma IV, the present ruler of the State, who has done not a little to promote the cause of good government within his dominions.

His Highness Sri Rama Varma was born on the 25th September 1857, under the ascendancy of the star *Mulam*. He is therefore known as "Mulam Tirunal." His early education was in the hands of an able tutor, Mr. Raghunatha Rao, who ultimately rose to be Dewan-Peishcar in the State. The royal pupil made steady progress both in English and Sanskrit. He was installed as Ruling Chief on the 19th August 1885, when he was only twenty-eight years old. His Excellency Sir Mount Stuart Elphinstone Grant Duff, the Governor of Madras, wrote and congratulated His Highness on his accession to the throne. On the day of his installation His Highness issued a royal proclamation, which announced the remissions of the old arrears of assessment amounting in all to three lakhs and a half, and an annual grant of Rs. 1,500 for repairing and constructing wells, and assured his subjects that the free religious institutions of the land would be maintained. The young Prince was fortunate enough to have as his Ministers statesmen of great ability, such as Dewan Ramaiengar and Dewan Shankara Subbaiyar, both of whom laboured hard and zealously for the well-being of the State. The great acts which will serve to perpetuate the memory of Dewan Ramaiengar, are the reform of the Revenue Survey and Settlement and of the administration of justice, and the establishment of a sound system of police.

In honour of the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress Victoria, His Highness the Maharajah subscribed Rs. 10,000 to the Imperial Institute in London and Rs. 2,000 to the Technical Institute in Madras. Also, the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall at Trivandrum and the Victoria Medical School and Hospital for women at Quilon, were founded by the State as fitting memorials of the benevolent rule of the Queen. At the Durbar held in this connection at Trivandrum, His Highness observed :—

"It has pleased the Almighty to extend to half a century a reign at once beneficent and glorious, and while we unite in thanks-giving for this great mercy, we likewise pray that He may vouchsafe to prolong it to the longest span. We are justly proud of our liege lady sitting enthroned on the four quarters of the globe and islands in every ocean, sending forth her ships to collect and distribute the material blessings of the earth, and her agents to carry everywhere the still higher blessings which humanise and elevate mankind—herself endowed with every virtue which can adorn a Sovereign or grace a woman. Her armies have marched to victory over forces mightier than her own, but never for vain glory. Her flag wherever it flies, is the symbol

of protection to the good and a sign in the air warning the wicked from their evil course."

In 1887-88 the State received a visit from H. E. Lord Connemara, Governor of Madras, and the event was commemorated by the opening of a central market known as the Connemara Market. The same year His Highness proceeded on a tour to Bombay and Madras. While at Bombay, he met Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, as well as Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Reay.

In November 1888 the distinction of the Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India was conferred upon His Highness. In December of the following year His Highness had the rare pleasure of meeting His late Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor of Wales. The occasion is memorable, as it was the first time when a prominent member of the Royal House of England visited the State. A fitting reception was accorded to the heir-apparent to the British Throne, and the loyalty of Her Majesty's Indian subjects manifested itself in a variety of ways.

The Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria was celebrated in June 1897, and in commemoration of the event, the Diamond Jubilee Public Library and the Victoria Orphanage were founded. Two years later Her Imperial Majesty was pleased to increase the personal salute of His Highness the Maharajah from nineteen to twenty-one guns. In the middle of 1900 the State was thrown into a gloom of sorrow on account of the death of the first Prince, Sri Martanda Varma, whom Lord Curzon described as "an amiable and accomplished Prince, a man of culture, of travel and learning, the first graduate among all the Indian Princes, who seemed destined to cast fresh lustre upon the name of the famous ancestor which he bore." On the 31st August, His Highness, with the concurrence of the British Government, adopted into the royal family two princesses, Sethu Lakshmi Bai and Sethu Parvathi Bai from the Mavelikara family. The Ranis have been making steady progress in education. In November of the same year Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Curzon visited the State. In honour of the Viceregal visit and as a token of his admiration for the great Viceroy, His Highness instituted an annual prize of Rs. 500 in the Madras University with a view to encourage post-graduate research. On the memorable occasion of the Delhi Durbar of 1903 the King-Emperor conferred on His Highness the additional title of Knight Grand Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire. The same year the Viceory presented His Highness with the Delhi Durbar Medal.

On the 19th August 1910, the Silver Jubilee of His Highness's reign was celebrated with great joy and enthusiasm throughout the State. Two congratulatory addresses were presented to His Highness—one by the Kerala Nair Samajam and the other by the general public. In the former address is the following paragraph :—

"We rejoice to recognise in Your Highness the most constitutional of rulers, and to find in Your Highness's actions a most happy blending of true conservatism with advanced progressiveness—to find Your Highness so sedulous to safeguard our ancient customs and yet so ready to adopt the improvements of modern western civilization. Your Highness's incessant and conscientious application to the business of the State has made the King the hardest worked officer in the country."

We take the following extract from the People's address :—

"It is our humble pride that no sovereign in history can show a more brilliant record of combined administrative beneficence and personal virtue; and we fail to find words to adequately voice our sentiments on this occasion. It is a solemn truth that Your Highness has made such a thorough conquest of the people's hearts, as it has never been any other's to accomplish............... Your Highness has a throne in every heart that throbs within Your Highness's realm, and posterity too will cherish Your Highness's name as that of the best and greatest ruler of Travancore."

The administration of the State is conducted in the name and under the control of His Highness the Maharajah. The Legislative Council which was brought into existence in 1888, enacts laws, and the Dewan is the Chief Minister. A representative assembly, known as the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, was formed in October 1904, with the object of enabling the people of the State to express directly to the Durbar, their wants and wishes, and represent their views on administrative measures. The members of this assembly were at first nominated by the State from among the agricultural, trading, industrial and other classes, but from the second year the privilege of electing members to the Assembly was granted to the people themselves. Each taluk ordinarily returns a member, but with permission may send more than one member. Out of seventy, the total strength of the Assembly, forty-two are the elected representatives of the thirty-two taluks of the State. For purposes of Land Revenue administration, the State is divided into five divisions. Each of the first four divisions is under the control of a Dewan-Peishcar, and the officer in charge of the remaining Devikulam division is styled Superintendent. These officers exercise the powers of a District Magistrate.

Among the recent administrative changes mention may be made

of the abolition, as a tentative measure for five years, of the export duty on timber of all kinds ; the nomination to the Legislative Council of four non-official members from the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly ; the tentative introduction of the system of village punchayats at select centres ; the extension of the work of the Town Improvement Committees ; and the granting of the privilege to a few old towns of electing almost all their non-official members.

The Revenue of the State for the year 1910-11 was Rs.1,28,09,000 and the expenditure amounted to Rs.1,18,62,000. Of the total revenue the land yielded Rs.36,99,000 and the excise Rs.24,57,000. Out of the total expenditure the Public Works Department received Rs.25,65,000, the Dewaswoms or Religious Institutions and the Ottupuras or charitable institutions together had Rs.14,48,000. Education received Rs.6,23,000, and Science and Arts over a lakh of rupees. The Law College, the only other institution of its kind in the Presidency besides the one in Madras, has about 200 students, and during 1909-10 its income and expenditure were Rs.13,047 and Rs.10,738 respectively. The railway from Shencotta to Quilon originally constructed by the South Indian Railway Company, is not yet able to meet its expenses. Hence the Durbar continues to give every year a substantial amount to meet the deficit. The total area of the reserved forests is 2,325 square miles and the net revenue for 1910-11 was Rs.3,14,000. Agriculture and other industries continue to receive increasing support from the State. There are experimental farms at select centres and also a silk farm at Trivandrum. Special attention is paid to the study of the manurial requirements of the staple crops of the country. Periodical Exhibitions are held. In 1910 there was an Agricultural Exhibition at Trivandrum under the auspices of the State, and two other Exhibitions were held under private agency at Ochira and Ettumanoor, respectively. There are at present 66 factories in the State, half of which are for tea-making. The remaining factories are for the manufacture of tiles and bricks and coir yarn, the extraction of cocoanut oil, and the husking of paddy. The Public Works Department has done much to improve the State. Roads, bridges and culverts, canals and ferries, lighting, buildings, irrigation projects, and tanks and channels have received special attention. The Postal system has been extended, and there are 192 Anchal or Post offices and 227 letter boxes. A survey of a railway line from Quilon to Trivandrum was sanctioned last year.

Under the enlightened rule of the present Maharajah, there has been a marked progress in the education of the people in all its grades. During last year the system of education was remodelled, and a new Educational Code was brought into operation. The number of

educational institutions was 3,706 with 2,17,674 pupils and their total expenditure amounted to Rs.7,60,364. Of the Government Institutions, there are two Arts Colleges, one Law College, twenty-four secondary schools for boys and one for girls,350 elementary schools for boys, and eighty-three for girls, three Training schools, one Technical school, and four other special schools. Private Institutions are of two kinds, aided and unaided. Of the aided institutions, there are twenty-five secondary schools for boys, nine for girls, 1,167 elementary schools for boys, 114 for girls, two Training schools and twelve Technical schools. Of the unaided institutions there are two Arts Colleges, twenty-one secondary schools for boys, one for girls, 1,852 elementary schools for boys, twenty-eight for girls, one Training school, one Technical school and three other special schools. These are managed by the Christian missionaries and other private agencies. The control of the Law College has recently been transferred from the Educational Department of the State to the Travancore Chief Court. The percentage of scholars attending the sircar, the aided and the unaided schools, is 31, 38 and 31 respectively. Of the total population of the State, the percentage under instruction is 7·4 and out of the strength of the school-going children 71 per cent. are males and 26·7 per cent. are females. The State School of Arts, at Trivandrum, sold its manufactured articles in 1911 for Rs.4,856, and has received awards of silver and bronze medals at several public exhibitions. The Sanskrit Patasala at Trivandrum with 183 students, the Regimental school at Pangode for the benefit of the Nair Brigade sepoys with 104 pupils, and the Reformatory school at Trivandrum with only four pupils, are other special schools of importance.

There are six hostels and boarding houses with 327 students. Besides these, the schools under missionary management have special arrangements for the lodging and boarding of their pupils. The cause of elementary education is strengthened by the existence of twenty-six Education Boards, whose chief function is to enlist the sympathy and support of the people, and thus spread primary education. There are nine orphanages, all under missionary management. Out of 664 inmates, 103 are boys and 561 girls. Three of the orphanages receive aid from the Durbar. The Vernacular Press with twenty-eight periodicals is another educational agency in the State.

There are 380 major and 1,186 minor Hindu temples maintained by the Durbar. The most important temple in the State, dedicated to Sri Padmanabha Swami at Trivandrum, has a government of its own unconnected with the State. The management and supervision of this temple vest solely in His Highness the Maharajah personally. Several wholly private

Hindu temples, both within and outside the State, receive fixed grants from the sirkar. 3300 Ottupuras or feeding houses for Brahmins are among other charitable institutions. There are twenty-two forts in all, the most famous, of them being the Udayagiri Fort, the Padmanabhapuram Fort and the Vattakotta Fort. In commemoration of the splendid services rendered to the State by Rajah Sir T. Madhava Rao as Dewan between the years 1858 and 1872, a bronze statue of the renowned statesman adorns the city of Trivandrum. There are also the Public Gardens, the Museum, and the Observatory. The Sirkar owns forty-nine hospitals and dispensaries, besides a Lunatic Asylum and a Leper Asylum. Six hospitals are attached to jails. The Police force consists of one Superintendent, three Assistant Superintendents, forty-five Inspectors, 170 Head Constables and 1,531 Constables. The system is worked on the British Indian model. There are fifty prison houses, the Central Jail being at Trivandrum. The Military force is efficiently maintained by the State, and consists of five regiments of Cavalry, Sappers, Artillery, Infantry and Imperial Service Troops, with six guns.

The full titles of the Maharajah are—His Highness Sri Padmanabha Dasa Vanchi Pala Sir Rama Varma Kulasekhara Kiritapathi Manney Sultan Maharaja Raja Ramarajah Bahadur Shamsher Jung, G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E., Member of the Royal Asiatic Society, London, Officer de L' Instruction Publique, Maharajah of Travancore.

The enlightened rule of the present Maharajah has tended to increase the moral and material advancement of the State. Much of the conservatism of the Kerala land is breaking down, and modern civilisation is gradually dispelling the evil influences of priestly tyranny and of caste prejudice, and there are evidences of progress all around. This picturesque and idyllic country is full of interest to the scholar and the antiquarian, happily blending in its progressive course both ancient Indian tradition and modern Western culture. Endowed with such advantages, Travancore, under the parental care of H. H. the present Maharajah, has already taken rank among the leading feudatory States of India.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SIR MADHO SINGH BAHADUR, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.C.VO., LL. D., MAHARAJAH OF JAIPUR

Jaipur is the fourth largest State in Rajputana. It has an area of 15,579 square miles with a population of 2,644,072. There is an elevated table-land in the centre, and many ranges of hills traverse the province. The Banas is the principal river with several tributaries. The climate in general is dry and healthy.

The ruler of Jaipur is the acknowledged head of the Kachwaha clan of Rajputs, and he traces his descent to Kusa, the son of Sri Rama, king of Ayodhya. Towards the end of the third century, the Kachwahas who migrated to Central India, established themselves in Gwalior and Narwar, and they ruled over the country for nearly eight centuries. Vajradaman was the first Kachwaha Chief who reigned at Gwalior. Eighth in descent from him was Tej Karan, otherwise known as Dulha Rai. He married a princess of Rajputana, and obtained the district of Daosa from his father-in-law, who left no male heir to succeed him; and at the beginning of the twelfth century Dulha Rai left Gwalior for Daosa. About 1128 the Kachwaha dynasty established itself in Eastern Rajputana, with Daosa as its capital. In 1150 one of Dulha Rai's successors captured Amber, and made it the capital. It continued to remain as such until the modern capital of Jaipur was built in 1728 by Sawai Jai Singh. Another successor, Pajun by name, is said to have married the sister of Prithivi Raj Chauhan, the last Hindu king of Delhi. In the battle with Mahomed Ghori in 1192, both the chiefs were killed. The next chief of any note was Udai Karan who was the Chief of Amber towards the end of the fourteenth century.

During the Moghul period, the Amber State passed into the hands of the Moghuls. Bahar Mal, the Rajput Chief who ruled over Amber between 1548 and 1574, was the first to pay homage to the Moghul

Emperor. Humayun raised him to the command of 5000, and Akbar the Great married his daughter. On the death of Bahar Mal, Mân Singh, his grandson, came to the *gadi* in 1590. He distinguished himself in the Imperial Army, and proved one of its most capable generals. He was subsequently raised to the command of 7000. Among his successors, Jai Singh I, familiarly known as Mirza Raja, was a chief of great ability. During the reign of Aurangzeb, he was appointed commander over 6000 horse. One of his bravest acts was the capture of Sivaji, the great Mahratta chief. In 1668 Jai Singh died poisoned, it is said, by the Emperor. One of his successors was Jai Singh II, also known as Sawai Jai Singh. Sawai is a title bestowed on the Hindu Chief by the Moghul Emperor, and it is borne to this day by all his descendants. In 1699 Sawai Jai Singh, the founder of Jaipur, ascended the throne of Amber. He reigned peacefully at Jaipur for nearly half a century, and by his wise and able rule raised the state greatly to prominence. Endowed with high intellectual gifts, he was deeply interested in scientific studies. He caused many mathematical works of great value to be translated into Sanskrit, and erected observatories at Jaipur, Delhi, Benares, Muttra and Ujjain. Soon after his death in 1743, a portion of his territory was annexed by the Jats of Bharatpur.

Towards the close of the eighteenth century, Jaipur was thrown into confusion and disorder on account of internal troubles. The Mahrattas began to plunder the helpless inhabitants, and consequently the whole province presented a woeful scene. During the reign of Jagat Singh, the British Government entered into a treaty with the Maharajah, and an alliance was formed against the Mahrattas. As Jagat Singh failed to co-operate with the British against the Holkar, the compact was dissolved in 1805. As a result of the renewal of negotiations between the Jaipur State and the British Government, a treaty with the latter was concluded in 1818, by which the British promised to protect Jaipur from all foreign aggressions, and fixed a sum of eight lakhs as the annual tribute to be paid by the State. Jagat Singh died in 1818, and he was succeeded by his posthumous son, Jai Singh III. During the latter's minority, much corruption prevailed in the State. In 1820, a rebellion broke out. Things drifted from bad to worse until at last they reached a climax in 1835, when Maharajah Ram Singh came to the *gadi*. The British Government was obliged to interfere in the internal management of the State, and to adopt effective measures to maintain order and peace. A Council of Regency with five of the principal nobles was formed, and the Political Agent was empowered to direct and control the Council. The State army was reduced, and many administrative changes were introduced. In 1842 the

British Government made a remission of the arrears of tribute amounting to over forty-six lakhs of rupees, and further the annual tribute, payable by the State, was reduced to four lakhs. In 1851 Maharajah Ram Singh was invested with full powers. During the Mutiny of 1857, His Highness placed the whole of his army at the disposal of the British, and rendered them valuable aid. In recognition of his loyal service the Supreme Government rewarded him with the grant of the *pargana* of Kot Kasim. In 1862 the privilege of adoption was allowed him. The following year he was created a Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. During the famine of 1868, his magnanimous and liberal conduct won the admiration of the Government of India. At the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi in January 1877, he was granted a personal salute of twenty-one guns, and became a Counsellor of the Empire. During his memorable reign, the State enjoyed peace and prosperity. Roads were opened up, schools established, irrigation projects carried out, and gas and water works introduced. Having no male heir he adopted Kaim Singh, a lineal descendant of Jagat Singh at the time af his death, and accordingly with the approval of the British Government, Kaim Singh ascended the throne in 1880 under the title of Sawai Madho Singh II.

His Highness the Maharajah Madho Singh II, the present ruler of Jaipur, was born in 1862. As he was young, the administration was at first carried on by a council under the joint presidency of the Maharajah and the Political Agent. In 1882, two years after accession, he was invested with full administrative powers. He began his reign under favourable auspices, and nobly followed in the footsteps of his predecessor. His reign has been peaceful, prosperous and successful, and the Imperial Government have, in appreciation of his able rule, bestowed several honors on him. In 1887 his salute was raised to nineteen guns, and subsequently in 1896, to twenty-one guns, as a personal distinction. In 1888 the title of G. C. S. I., was conferred on him. In 1901 he was created a G. C. I. E., and in 1903, made a G. C. V. O. In 1904 he was raised to the rank of an Honorary Colonel of the 13th Rajputs (the Shekhawati Regiment). In 1908 the Edinburgh University conferred on him the Honorary degree of LL. D.

Several important changes in the administration of the State have been introduced. In 1889-90 the Imperial Service Transport Corps was organised. Numerous irrigation works have been constructed and hospitals and dispensaries have been established. His Highness's magnificent gift of twenty lakhs as an endowment to the Indian People's Famine Relief Trust, is but one of the many instances of his philanthropy. In combating the severe famine of 1899-1900, His Highness organised various

relief works, chiefly irrigation projects. Twenty-one millions were relieved at a cost of about nineteen lakhs. In the villages and in the poor houses one million and a half were saved at a cost of a lakh. Forests were thrown open to free grazing and the poor were permitted to remove and sell grass and firewood. Remissions of land revenue were made to the extent of about twelve lakhs, and *takavi* was freely distributed.

In 1902 His Highness crossed the sea to witness the Coronation Ceremony of King Edward VII. A special vessel was chartered for the occasion and the visit to England was accomplished without violating any caste principle. His Highness carried with him stored on board the vessel water from the Ganges sufficient for the whole voyage. While in London His Highness gave generous donations of a quarter of a lakh to the Lady Curzon Scholarship branch of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund, £5000 to the King's Hospital Fund, one lakh towards the Transvaal War Fund, and five lakhs of rupees to the Queen Victoria Memorial Fund. In 1903 Her Highness the Senior Maharanee Jadanjee Sahiba gave a lakh of rupees to the Famine Fund, and again added to the same Fund another lakh of rupees in honor of the visit to Jaipur of H. R. H. The Princess of Wales.

Among the Rajput States Jaipur has the largest population, of whom more than ninety per cent. are Hindus, and about eight per cent. Mahomedans. The people in general are very conservative. The prevailing creed is Vaishnavism. Jaipuri or Dhundari, Bagri, and Dangi are the chief languages. A little over one half of the population is engaged in agriculture. It is interesting to learn that camels are usually yoked to the plough instead of bullocks. Bajra, barley and jowar are the staple food grains. Considerable attention is paid to the agricultural development of the State. Loans are regularly advanced to the cultivators for the purchase of seed and cattle. A sum of Rs. 50,000 is annually provided for the improvement of wells. Of the important irrigation works mention may be made of the Ramgarh *band*, the Tordi Sagar, the Buchara *band* and the Kalakh Sagar. The forest has an area of 283 square miles, and it yields an annual revenue of Rs. 24,000.

The administration of the State is carried on by the Maharaja, assisted by a Council of ten members. The chief executive departments of the State are the financial, judicial, and foreign, military and miscellaneous. The normal revenue of the State is over sixty-six lakhs, of which the land yields forty-two lakhs, and the annual expenditure amounts to about fifty-nine lakhs. Three-fifths of its total area consist of grant lands held by nobles, ministers, priests, or courtiers, and two-fifths are known as *khalsa* or State lands. Jaipur has a coin of its own, Jhar Shahi, so called from its mint mark (Jhar meaning a spray of six sprigs or

branches). The current coins are gold mohurs, rupees, silver coins and copper pieces.

Justice is administered by the Adalat Diwani or Civil Court, and the Faujdari Adalat or Criminial Court. Both the civil and criminal courts are guided generally by the Codes of British India. The State Council is the highest court of appeal, and exercises supreme jurisdiction in all matters, civil, criminal and revenue. When passing sentences of death, the council is presided over by the Maharajah in person.

The Rajputana-Malwa Railway runs through the State, and has a total length of 243 miles. The State line from the capital to Sawai Madhopur, a distance of 73 miles, is fast nearing completion, and the estimated cost amounts to about twenty-nine lakhs. Woollen cloths and fabrics, cotton cloths and chintzes, marble sculpture, enamel work, pottery, and brass and lacquer work are the chief manufactures. The most noted of the Jaipur textiles are the Sanganer and Bagru chintzes (dyed and stamped cotton cloths). Jaipur is also famous for gold enamelling. Large banking and exchange business is done at the capital and in a few important towns. Salt is manufactured from the Sambhar Lake.

Education is provided free throughout the State. About 25,000 pupils are under instruction. There are three colleges, twenty-five secondary, 118 primary and five special schools. The special schools include the School of Arts, the Painting school and the Carpet Weaving schools. Of the 753 educational institutions, 151 are public and 602 private schools. The Durbar maintains seventy-seven of the public institutions. Female education is making slow progress ; there are eleven girls' schools, of which nine are at Jaipur.

The military force of the State consists of 5000 Infantry divided into eight regiments, 5000 Nagas (Irregular Infantry), 700 cavalry, 860 artillery men and 100 camel sowars, with about 110 guns. Besides these, the Jagirdars maintain 5782 horsemen, who serve the Durbar whenever required. The Imperial Service Transport Corps, consisting of 1000 ponies and 400 carts, was sent to Chitral during the campaign in 1895, and formed part of the Chitral Relief Force. In 1896, 200 more ponies were added to the Imperial Corps. Again in 1897-98, the Corps rendered valuable service during the Tirah campaign. The present strength of the Corps is 1200 ponies, 558 folding iron carts, 16 ambulance tongas, and 722 officers. Its maintenance annually costs the State 2·5 lakhs. The entire military expenditure amounts to about ten lakhs per annum.

The Faujdar is at the head of the City Police and the force has a total of 855 constables and chaukidars. The District Police is under a

Superintendent, and it consists of eleven Deputy Superintendents, 160 thanadars, 582 constables and 11,058 chaukidars. This department is maintained at an annual cost of 2·4 lakhs. There are the Central and District jails. Woollen carpets, cotton rugs and dusters are the chief jail products.

Medical relief is afforded by twenty-nine hospitals and dispensaries. Seven of these are managed by the Jagirdars, and the rest are maintained by the Durbar. They are under the control and supervision of the Residency Surgeon. A small Residency Hospital is maintained by the British Government. There are, besides, Railway Hospitals and a Lunatic Asylum. The vaccination staff has forty-seven vaccinators.

Jaipur, the capital, is the largest city in Rajputana. The main streets are provided with gas-lights. The Maharajah's palaces, the Ram Newa's Public Gardens, the Albert Hall, and the Edward Museum are worth seeing. The last of these is named after King Edward VII, who, when he visited India as Prince of Wales, laid its foundation stone. It has a large and varied collection of art, industrial and educational exhibits.

The postal department consists of forty-eight British postal and telegraph offices. Since 1861 the State has adopted a local system, and there are about one hundred local post offices.

The full titles of His Highness are—His Highness Saramad-i-Rajaha-i-Hindustan Raj Rajindra Sri Maharaja-dhiraj Sawai Sir Madho Singh Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.C.V.O., LL. D., Maharajah of Jaipur. The Maharajah is liberal and progressive in his views. The ruler of the largest Rajput State, His Highness has before him a long and bright career of public usefulness. Simple in taste and habits, highly religious, and generous at heart His Highness has by his beneficent rule secured for him the lasting gratitude and devotion of his peaceful and contented subjects.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH
COLONEL SIR SHAHU CHHATRAPATHI MAHARAJ,
G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E., G. C. V. O., LL. D., M. R. A. S.,
MAHARAJAH OF KOLHAPUR

AMONG the Mahratta States, Kolhapur ranks very high and is of special interest. Its ruler represents the family of the great Sivaji, who was descended from the Ranas of Udaipur and welded the Mahrattas into a people and worked for the political pre-eminence of Maharashtra in India. The history of Kolhapur may be roughly divided into three periods: the mythical; the Mahomedan, from the middle of the fourteenth to the beginning of the eighteenth century; and the modern. Recent discoveries of copper and lead coins and of some brass models disclose that about the first century of the Christian era, the territory must have been governed by members or Viceroys of the great Shatakharni or Andrabhritya family in North Deccan. From the Andrabhrityas it passed to the Kadambas in 500 A. D. The western Chalukyas then subdued and continued to rule over the country till 1180, but for a short interval, when the Rashtrakutas wrested it from them in 973. The country next passed into the hands of the Kolhapur Shilahars who in turn gave place to the Devagiri Yadavas. The latter continued in possession of it till the subversion of the Bahmini kingdom about 1347 A D., when Kolhapur and the adjoining territories became part of the independent kingdom of Bijapur.

Kolhapur again came into political prominence, when Tara Bai, the mother regent of Sivaji II, a grandson of the great Sivaji by his son, Rajaram, made it her capital. Sivaji II who died in 1721 A. D. was succeeded by his brother, Sambhaji II, who passed away in 1760, when Sivaji III came to the *gadi*. His reign was an eventful one. Just a year after his accession to the throne, the great battle of Panipat was fought, which shook the Mahratta power to its foundations and threw the country into political confusion. General Wellesley, the future Duke of Wellington, was engaged in a campaign,

against Scindia and the Rajah of Berar, when he intimated to the Kolhapur Rajah that he would not permit any aggression against the allies of the English. Subsequently hostilities began between the Rajah of Kolhapur and the Nipani Chief, and in the battle of Saigaon in 1808, the former was defeated. To maintain peace a wedding was arranged between the Nipani Chief and a princess of Kolhapur. This alliance, however, did not prove advantageous, inasmuch as the bridegroom ran off with his wife, and soon showed signs of hostility. The Rajah of Kolhapur then entered into a treaty with the British, which put an end to all further disturbances. According to the terms of the treaty; the Rajah ceded to the British the harbour of Malvan and its dependencies, gave up all his claims to Chikodi and Manoli, and further agreed not to attack any foreign State without the consent of the Supreme Government to whom all disputes were to be referred. The English in return renounced all their claims against the Rajah, and guaranteed to protect his territories against the aggression of any foreign power or State. Kolhapur thus became a Protected State in alliance with the British Government.

Sivaji III died in 1812, leaving two sons, Shambu and Shahaji, familiarly known as Aba Saheb and Bava Saheb. Aba Saheb was murdered in 1821. The British Government then recognised the claims of Shahaji or Bava Saheb, and placed him on the *gadi*. He increased his army and attacked his own feudatories and subjects, and also the allies and the subjects of the British. Thereupon the English sent an army in 1826 against Kolhapur. After some resistance, the Rajah came to terms and he had to reduce his army and to refrain from disturbing the public peace and molesting the Kagal and Ichalkaranji Jaghirs. But the treaty fully acknowledged the independence of the Rajah as a sovereign prince. As he violated this treaty, another treaty within a year and a half was concluded. He was now allowed to keep only 400 horse and 800 foot in addition to the garrisons for his forts. The British resumed the districts of Chikodi and Manoli, and also Akivat, a notorious haunt of robbers. The Rajah agreed to pay a compensation of Rupees one lakh and a half to those who had suffered from his lawless violence, and to transfer temporarily territory yielding Rs. 50,000, towards the liquidation of this debt. In ratification of this treaty it was stipulated that British garrisons should be received into the forts of Kolhapur and Panhala, the expense of their maintenance being defrayed by the Rajah. These engagements with the British Government were again violated for the third time; and consequently a force was sent against him, and a definite treaty was concluded in October 1827, when a chief minister was appointed to advise the Rajah in all administrative matters. The Rajah died suddenly on the 28th November 1838, leaving two sons, Sivaji IV and

Shahu, commonly known as Baba Saheb and Chima Saheb. Baba Saheb was a minor, and a regency was formed consisting of his mother, his aunt (Dewan Saheb) and four Karbharies. The Dewan Saheb who was powerless, could not get on smoothly with the turbulent elements that formed the Kolhapur Durbar, and so the British Government made Daji Krishna Pandit, a Mahratta Brahman of great ability, Dewan of the State. In restoring order he made many enemies, and an insurrection arose, which was suppressed by British troops. A Political Superintendent was appointed to secure the future tranquillity of the country.

The British Government, in recognition of the loyalty of the Rajah during the Mutiny of 1857, conferred on him the Order of the Star of India and granted him a *sanad* of adoption. In 1862 they invested him with full administrative authority, defining his powers, and providing for the liquidation of the debt still due to them. Baba Saheb died in August 1866. He had a son by his wife, the daughter of the Gaekwar of Baroda, but the heir died young. The Rajah of Kolhapur, therefore, adopted on his death-bed Nagoji Rao (Rajaram), the son of his eldest sister, according to the law and custom prevailing there; and the Government of Bombay, after approving the adoption, appointed an Assistant Political Agent, who, in addition to his other duties, was entrusted with the education of the Prince. A Parsi graduate was also appointed tutor, and the Prince was made to reside far from the unwholesome influence of the Palace and in close vicinity to the Residency. The young Prince was docile, intelligent, and amiable, and he created a favourable impression on the public. He went to Europe in May 1870, accompanied by his guardian, Captain E. W. West, his tutor, and a few servants. The Prince was presented to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, and he formed the acquaintance of many leading men in England. He suddenly took ill, and in spite of all that medical skill and human aid could do, he passed away at Florence on the 30th November 1870. His remains were cremated on the banks of the Arno according to Hindu rites. A cupola and a bust of the deceased mark the spot.

As Rajaram left no issue, his widows were allowed to adopt an heir, and they selected one Narayana Rao, son of Dinkar Rao Bhonsle. The Government approved the selection, and the boy who was nine years old, was adopted in 1871 and named Sivaji V. Within a few years, however, he showed signs of insanity. In March 1882, a Council of Regency was appointed with Jayasing Rao Ghatge Sarjerao Vazarat Ma-ab, the Jahagirdar of Kagal, as Regent, assisted by three Members, the Dewan, the Chief Judge and the Chief Revenue Officer. On the 25th December 1883, Sivaji Chhatrapathi Maharajah died at Ahmednagar. The Maharanees, with the consent of the British Government, elected Yashwant Rao, otherwise known

as Baba Saheb, the eldest son of the Regent, to succeed the deceased Maharajah. Her Highness Anandibai Saheb, the widow of His Highnes the Maharajah Sivaji Chhatrapathi, accordingly adopted Yashwant Rao on the 17th March 1884, under the style and title of Shahu Chhatrapathi Maharaj. He was born on the 26th June 1874 and was therefore ten years of age at the time. During his minority, the affairs of the State were conducted by the Council of Regency.

The young Prince received his education under a competent European tutor, Mr. S. M. Fraser, who has shaped and moulded the character of many a Chief in India. Shahu Chhatrapathi Maharaj made progress in his studies, and when he attained his majority in 1894, he was allowed to exercise full administrative powers in the Principality. He has cultivated a good understanding with the neighbouring Chiefs, and has further cemented his connection with the house of Gaekwar by his marriage with a princess of that family. He holds the first rank among the Ruling Princes of the Bombay Presidency, and is one of the four great Mahratta Chiefs, the other three being Baroda, Gwalior, and Indore. In 1900 he obtained the hereditary distinction of *Maharajah*. He was present in London in 1902 to participate in the coronation festivities of His late Majesty King Edward VII. His Highness the Maharajah enjoys the distinctions of G. C. S. I., and G. C. V. O., and he is also an LL. D. of the Cambridge University, and member of the Royal Agricultural Society of England. At the last Delhi Durbar, His Highness was created a G. C. I. E. He is entitled to a salute of twenty-one guns (including two guns personal). On the 1st January 1915, His Highness was appointed honorary Colonel of the 103rd Maratha Light Infantry.

The area of Kolhapur is 3,165 square miles and the population is about 900,000 of whom 90 per cent. are Hindus and the rest, Mahomedans and Christians. The Mahrattas form the majority of the Hindu population. There are also Lingayats, Mahars and Sutars. The province consists of portions of the two old Hindu divisions of Maharashtra and Carnatic. The soil is of four kinds—black, red, alluvial and white. Jowari, rice, nachni and bajri are grown in abundance. Other crops are sugarcane, tobacco, cotton, chillies, etc. A few coffee and cardamom, and tea plantations yield a small revenue. Irrigation works are rare, the water supply for purposes of cultivation being chiefly from wells or pools dug in stream beds. The area of reserved forest is 341 square miles, while 182 square miles are protected. The forest produces teak, sandal, blackwood, myrabolam, grass, and honey. The comb of the *pova* bee which is highly prized, is found in the hollows of rocks and decayed trees. In the western portion of Kolhapur there are hill slopes and valleys. The central portion which is, mostly fertile, has also several ranges of hills. Eight large streams water the State, and during the rainy season they are navigable

for boats. Rankala is the chief lake in the State. Kolhapur is 1,800 feet above the sea-level, and has a temperate climate.

There are nine Municipalities. The land revenue administration is carried on by the Chief Revenue Officer corresponding to the Commissioner of a British Division. There are three kinds of land tenure—alienated or inami, State or sheri, and personal or ryotwari. The inam lands are sub-divided into personal, religious and political grants, and also grants for non-military service. State or sheri lands are the personal holdings of the Maharajah and are in the charge of Revenue Officers, who lease them to the highest bidder for a fixed period. The revenue of the State is nearly fifty lakhs of rupees. The British rupee is the current coin. His Highness maintains a military force of more than 700 men. The strength of the police is about 900, maintained at a cost of nearly a lakh of rupees. There is a central jail at Kolhapur with seventeen subordinate jails at different places.

Kolhapur has nine feudatories, of whom four are important, namely, the Jahagirdars of Vishalgad, Bavda, Kagal Senior, and Ichalkaranji. The Jahagirdar of Vishalgad, popularly known as Pant Pratinidhi, is a Deshasth Brahmin. The Jahagirdar of Bavda, commonly called Pant Amatya, is also a Deshasth Brahmin. The Jahagirdar of Kagal Senior is a Mahratta, and his family name is Ghatge. The present Jahagirdar is the brother of His Highness in his natural family, and in addition to the personal distintions of C. S. I., and C. I. E., he holds the hereditary titles of "Sarjerao" and "Vajarat-ma-ab." The Jahagirdar of Ichalkaranji, styled Ghorpade, is a Konkanasth Brahmin, and his family name is Joshi. The hereditary title of *Pant Sachiv* has been recently conferred upon the Jahagirdar by His Highness.

The State proper is divided into six petas or talukas and four mahals, and is administered by the Maharajah. His Highness exercises full sovereign powers, civil and criminal, and also passes sentences of death. There are nearly seventy criminal courts with powers ranging from those of a third-class Magistrate to those of a Sessions Judge. The Feudatory Jahagirdars are empowered to sentence up to seven years and are also invested with the civil powers of a District Judge.

Education has made steady progress. There are about 250 institutions, including a College (Rajaram College), a High School and a Technical School. Some of the institutions are entirely supported by the Christian Missionaries. The Durbar maintains over a dozen libraries, and the principal one is at the capital city.

His Highness the Maharajah is in the prime of life, vigilant, sagacious and active. By supporting the rights and privileges of his subjects and governing them with justice and moderation he has proved himself worthy of the confidence which the Paramount Power has reposed in him.



H. H. THE MAHARANA OF UDAIPUR (OR MEWAR)

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH DHIRAJ MAHARANA SIR FATEH SINGHJI BAHADUR, G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E., MAHARANA OF UDAIPUR (OR MEWAR)

Mewar, otherwise known as Udaipur, is situated in the south of Rajputana. The mountainous country in the south-west is known as the Hilly Tracts of Mewar. The total area of the State is 12,691 square miles with a population of 1,272,518, of whom 80 per cent are Hindus. The Aravali Hills traverse the State. The Chambal and its tributary and the Banas are the principal rivers. Of the numerous lakes and tanks the finest are the Dhebar lake or Jai Samand, the Raj Samand at Kankroli and the Udai Sagar, the Pichola and the Fateh Sagar near the capital.

'Maharana' is the title of the rulers of Udaipur. Among the Rajput Chiefs the Maharana holds the highest rank, and it is the pride of the royal house of Udaipur that the Maharanas never contracted any matrimonial alliance with any other Rajput Chief, but remained pure Kshatryas; for during the Moghul reign in India, there were intermarriages between the other Rajput houses and the Moghul princes.

The Maharana traces his descent to Kusa, the elder son of Sri Rama of the Ramayana. In the beginning this family ruled in Sourashtra. One of its members Bapa Rawal happened to see an ascetic named Harita on the hills who advised Bapa to adore the god Shiva. In 734 A. D., in his twentieth year, Bapa took Chittor from its ruler Man Singh of the Mori clan of Rajputs and conquered many other countries besides. He was a very glorious and heroic ruler. In the early part of the fourteenth century Ratan Singhji I ruled at Chittor. He was killed in 1303 in the prolonged siege of Chittor by Alauddin Khilji. The Mahomedans held the fort for some time. Bhuvan Singhji, ninth in order of generation from Ratan Singhji, recovered it. In 1325 in the battle which was fought between Lahshman Singhji, the great-grandson of Bhuvan Singhji, and Muhamad Toglak of Delhi, the latter took the fort and gave it to Maldeva Souagra;

but Hamir Singhji, sixth in descent from Bhuvan Singhji, retook the fort from Maldeva by fighting with him and firmly established his rule. Being annoyed at this action of the Maharana, Muhamad Toglak invaded Chittor, and, in the battle which ensued, he was defeated and taken prisoner, and, three months after, ransomed by ceding the districts of Ajmere, Ranthambhor, and Shivpur, paying fifty lakhs of rupees and giving one hundred elephants to the Maharana. Hamir Singhji died in 1364, and the State enjoyed continued prosperity for a long time under the rule of his able successors, the chief of whom were Maharana Laksha Singhji or Lakhaji (1382-1397), Maharana Kumbhaji (1433-1468), and Maharana Rai Malji (1473-1508).

During the illustrious reign of Maharana Sangram Singhji I or Sangaji the State of Udaipur reached the zenith of its prosperity and is said to have yielded a revenue of ten crores. Maharana Sangaji was famous for his heroism and courage. He defeated the sovereigns of Delhi and Malwa in no fewer than eighteen pitched battles and extended his dominions. In the meantime Babar, the first Moghul Emperor of India, invaded Delhi, then the capital of Ibrahim Lodi, whom he defeated in battle, and captured both Agra and Delhi. The Maharanas were on ill terms with the crowned heads of Delhi. This ill-feeling did not cease when Babar became the Emperor; and when he took the fort of Bayana from Nizamkhan and Mewat from Hasankhan, the Maharana marched against him to recover the fort and to assist Hasankhan. Babar sued much for peace through the Rajah of Raisen who formed part of the Maharana's armies, but, the Maharana not agreeing to it, took to war. On the 21st February 1527, Babar sustained a defeat and the imperial army was put to flight. At this moment too Babar tried for peace in vain though he offered to pay tribute. Had the imperial army been attacked once more, it would have been completely routed. In the battle which took place at Khanua on the 16th of March the Maharana received an arrow in his eye and fainted. Consequently he had to be taken off from the battle-field and his army fought to the bitter end. The Maharana collected an army for a fresh battle, but disloyal people poisoned him on this occasion. He was succeeded by his son, Ratan Singhji II, whose rule lasted only for four years. During the reign of his successor, Vikramadityaji, internal dissensions broke out and disorder prevailed. Meanwhile Bahadur Shah of Gujrat seized the opportunity, invaded Mewar in 1534, and took Chittor. When Chittor fell into the hands of the enemy, the Rajput women ascended the funeral pyre and the garrison rushed forth to destruction. Bahadur Shah was subsequently defeated by Humayun. Vikramadityaji then regained his lost

possessions but was assassinated in 1534 by Banbir, the illegitimate son of Maharana Sangaji's brother, who assumed control over the State. Two years later Banbir was dethroned by Vikramadityaji's brother, Udai Singhji, who founded the city of Udaipur in 1559. Udai Singhji now became the ruler of the State. His peaceful rule lasted from 1537 to 1572. In 1567 Chittor was besieged for the last time during the reign of the Emperor, Akbar the Great. The Maharana was already gone towards Rajpipla. His forces ran into the jaws of death after a fight of four months, and the fort fell into the enemy's hands. Udai Singhji was succeeded by his son, Partab Singhji I (1572-1597), who fought several battles against Akbar's armies and of these that of Haldighat is widely known. It took place on the 21st May 1576. Amber Kunwar Man Singh was in command of the imperial forces numbering 80,000, while the Maharana's army amounted to 20,000 only. During the battle the imperial forces began to flee. But at this moment a rumour got afloat that the Emperor himself had come to the field which emboldened his troops, and the Maharana's army being baffled, the Maharana went away towards Gogunda. This battle was followed by several others, and a large part of Mewar was in the enemy's hands; but it was in the reign of this very Maharana that all the provinces were recovered except Ajmere, Mandalgarh, and Chittor. Amar Singhji I came to the throne after Partab Singhji. He fought several fights against Jahangir's forces, in which Prince Perwez and the Generals Mahabat Khan, Abdullakhan, etc., were disappointed owing to a series of defeats, and Jahangir did not succeed in his efforts to subdue the Maharana. Then Jahangir himself came down as far as Ajmere and sent Prince Khurram to wage war with the Maharana. Eventually a treaty was entered into between Jahangir and the Maharana, which decided that the Maharana would not meet Jahangir personally, and that his Kunwar only would go to the Emperor. In 1620 Karan Singhji, son of Amar Singhji, ascended the throne and reigned for eight years. After him came Jagat Singhji (1628-1652), during whose kindly sway Mewar enjoyed uninterrupted peace. He was succeeded by Maharana Raj Singhji I (1652-80).

When Aurangzeb became Emperor of Delhi, he imposed the capitation tax of Jazia on the Hindus whom as a devout and bigoted Mahomedan he treated with cruelty. This act of the Emperor immediately drew forth the dignified remonstrance of the Maharana. In the course of his letter the Maharana observes :—

" In fine, the tribute you demand from the Hindus is repugnant to justice : it is equally foreign to good policy, as it must impoverish the country : moreover it is an innovation and an infringement of the laws of

Hindustan. But if zeal for your religion hath induced you to determine upon this measure, the demand ought, by the rules of equity, to have been made first upon Ram Singh, who is esteemed the principal amongst the Hindus. Then let your well-wisher be called upon with whom you will have less difficulty to encounter ; but to torment ants and flies is unworthy of an heroic or generous mind. It is wonderful that the ministers of your Government should have neglected to instruct Your Majesty in the rules of rectitude and honour. "

On receipt of the letter, the Emperor was so enraged that he gave instant orders for a large army to march against the Maharana. Whereupon the imperial forces captured several cities. When this news reached the Maharana, he set off from Udaipur towards Kumbhalgarh. In 1662 there was a terrible famine. To relieve the distress of his subjects, he built the dam which now forms the Raj Samand lake. In 1681 his son, Jai Singhji, entered into a treaty with Aurangzeb and built the dam of the Dhebar lake (Jai Samand). After Jai Singhji came Amar Singhji II, who ruled from 1698 to 1710. When Shah Alam confiscated Jodhpur and Amber, Maharajah Ajeet Singhji of Jodhpur and Maharajah Jai Singhji of Amber came to Udaipur to get aid from the Maharana. He gave his daughter in marriage to Jai Singhji, when it was agreed upon that the Maharana's daughter would be considered as the queen of the highest rank, and the remaining queens be looked upon as inferior to her; that the son given birth to by the Maharana's daughter would be the heir-apparent; and that the daughter so born would not be given in marriage to Mahomedan kings. Then the Maharana sent his own armies to the aid of both the Maharajahs and got their States restored to them. At a later period Mewar suffered cruelly at the hands of the Mahrattas.

In 1817 the British Government which was growing in power and influence determined to extend its protection over the States of Rajputana. Bhim Singhji II, who was Maharana from 1778 to 1828, concluded a treaty with them in 1818. Later on in 1826 another treaty was entered into between the Maharana and the English, by which the former's tribute to the East India Company was fixed at three lakhs of rupees of the local coin. In 1846, however, the tribute was changed to two lakhs of rupees of the imperial coin. On the death of Bhim Singhji, Jawan Singhji ascended the throne and ruled over the State till 1838. One of his successors on the *gadi*, Sarup Singhji, rendered valuable aid to the British during the Indian Mutiny. On his death in 1861, Maharana Shambhu Singhji came to the throne. He reigned between 1861 and 1874 and was popular amongst his subjects for his good government. In appreciation of the

Maharana's philanthropy during the famine of 1868-69, the British Government in 1871 conferred on him the title of G. C. S. I.

Shambhu Singhji was succeeded by his first cousin, Sajjan Singhji. During his minority the administration of the State was in the hands of a Council of Regency aided by the Political Agent. In the Delhi Durbar of 1877 he was accorded a personal salute of twenty-one guns; and in the Durbar held at Chittor in 1881 he was made a Grand Commander of the Exalted Order of the Star of India. He died in 1884 without leaving an heir. Thereupon Fateh Singhji, a descendant of Maharana Sangram Singhji II, was installed in 1885 as the ruler of the State. For a few months he was personally assisted by the Resident in the administration of the State. Afterwards he was invested with full ruling powers. In 1887 the Order of the Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India was conferred on him. The same year he abolished all transit duties in the State (except that on opium) in commemoration of Her Imperial Majesty's Golden Jubilee. In 1897 he was accorded a personal salute of twenty-one guns; and in the Imperial Delhi Durbar of December 1911 the title of G. C. I. E. was conferred on him. During his memorable reign a railway was constructed from Chittor to the capital city. A settlement system was also introduced.

The administration of the State is carried on by the Maharana assisted by two ministerial officers, who with their staff form the Mahakmakhas (the chief executive department). The Civil and the Criminal Courts are guided by the ancient Hindu Law and local customs, the codes of British India being also consulted. The highest court is presided over by the Maharana. The State yields an annual revenue of about thirty lakhs of rupees.

The total strength of the State army is 5,527 of all ranks—2,534 Regulars and 2,993 Irregulars. The Regular troops consist of 1,811 Infantry, 408 Cavalry, and 315 Artillery. The Irregulars include 2,385 Infantry and 608 Cavalry. The State also possesses 128 guns. The army is maintained at an annual cost of about six and three quarters of a lakh. The Durbar pays annually a sum of Rs. 50,000 towards the maintenance of the Bhil cords at Kherwara. The duties of the Police are performed by the Irregulars. There is a Central Jail at Udaipur, where carpets, rugs, blankets coarse cloth, rope, etc., are manufactured.

About 60 per cent. of the total population are agriculturists. Among the principal crops are maize, jowar, til, cotton, sugarcane, wheat, barley, and gram. Poppy was once extensively grown over an area of 55,000 acres, but its cultivation has undergone gradual decrease and now it is confined to about 2,500 acres only. A system of irrigation covers one-fourth of the cultivable area. The forests of Mewar yield an annual revenue of

Rs. 27,000 as against an expenditure of Rs. 15,000. The State is rich in minerals. Jawar is famous for its lead and zinc mines. Iron mines exist, and sandstone is found in abundance. Excellent white marble of superior quality is obtained at Rajnagar, while black marble is found near Chittor. Besides these there are quarries of stones of various colours. There are ginning and pressing factories worked by the Durbar at Bhilwara, Kapasin, and Gulabpura.

Educational progress is slow but steady. The State maintains forty-three schools for boys and one for girls. Seven schools are managed by the United Free Church Mission, three by the Church Missionary Society, and two by the Mewar Bhil corps. There are only three secondary schools—one High School at the capital and two Anglo-Vernacular Middle Schools at Bhilwara and Chittor. Besides these schools, there are indigenous institutions, viz., maktabs and patasalas, of which there are twenty-two at the capital. The total expenditure on education is Rs. 36,000, of which more than half is realised through the special cess on agriculturists in settled districts.

There are forty-one imperial post offices, four of which are also telegraph offices. A local postal system known as the Brahmni Dat is maintained for the conveyance of State and private correspondence to and from places not served by the imperial system as it is done elsewhere. Though vaccination is not compulsory, its need is increasingly recognised and the department has a trained staff. The State has fourteen hospitals and six dispensaries including the military hospitals at Kherwara and Kotra. The famous fort of Chittor, known for its historic sieges, was, according to tradition, built by Bhim, the second of the Pandavas. Inside the fort is the Kirti Stambha, or the Tower of Fame, erected during the tenth century of the Vikram era. The Jai Stambha, or the Pillar of Victory, was built in 1448 to commemorate the battle fought against Mahmud in 1439. The fine palace at Udaipur is the largest in Rajputana.

During His Majesty's first visit to India as Prince of Wales, His Majesty was accorded a very enthusiastic and loyal reception at Udaipur At the Sate banquet held in honour of the Prince of Wales, the Maharana, while proposing the health of the royal guest, referred in glowing terms to the great consideration and interest evinced by the British Government in the well-being and prosperity of the State. He added: "The State has always been loyal to Government and will ever remain so. I assure Your Royal Highness and His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor of my everlasting friendship and loyalty." In the course of his eloquent reply the Prince observed ;—"We have heard much of the Rajputs and have had

the pleasure of meeting those of other clans in England; but to realise the splendid traditions of chivalry, freedom and courtesy which are the proud possession of the Rajput, one must see him in his own home, and for the Princess and myself I say in all sincerity that all we have heard and read in praise of Rajputana is dwarfed by what we have seen in one short day."

It is in Rajputana, more than anywhere else, that the purity of the Kshtriya (warrior) caste is still preserved, and the martial qualities of the Hindu race are in strong evidence. As the accredited representative of Hinduism, the Maharana wields considerable influence over his brother rulers Among the Chiefs of Rajasthan, no one is held in greater esteem and reverence than the Maharana of Udaipur. Long famous for its heroism and chivalry, the House of Udaipur stands for all that constitutes the greatness and glory of Rajputana.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH TUKOJI RAO HOLKAR BAHADUR III, MAHARAJAH OF INDORE

THE Holkars, as the rulers of Indore are generally known, originally resided near Muttra; thence they migrated to the Deccan. They remained first in Mewar (near Chittor) and then in the Aurangabad District, and eventually settled down at the village of Hol or Hal, on the Nira river, in the Phaltan Pargana, forty miles from Poona. Their family name is Veerkar, and yet they are called Holkars, probably after the name of the village in which they lived. The State takes its name from its chief town—Indore, also known as Indur, a corruption of Indreshwar or Indrapur. It is one of the most extensive States in Central India. A hill country so inaccessible and so secure, may well be supposed to have consisted, from a very early period, of distinct communities under independent chiefs.

Malhar Rao I, the son of a peasant, and founder of the House of Holkar, was born in 1693. After his father's death he lived with his maternal uncle, Narainji Bargal, and then joined the cavalry which the latter had held in readiness for his overlord, Sardar Kadam Bandia, a Mahratta noble. Malhar Rao soon displayed daring valour, extraordinary presence of mind, and other warlike qualities. The Peshwa entertained Malhar Rao in his service and made him commander of 500 horse. His high character and military genius stood him in good stead, and the Peshwa subsequently put him in charge of a small corps. He then gradually became the head of the army under Sardar Kadam Bandia. The Mahrattas were now rising in importance, and Baji Rao, the Peshwa, was ambitious of acquiring further territory. The Peshwa empowered the Holkar, the Sindhia, and the Ponwar of Dhar to collect taxes from Malwa, to credit *chauth and sardeshmukhi* to Poona, and to hold over half the *mokasa* for the maintenance of the army under them. Malhar Rao conquered the country on the Narbadha, In 1728 he

obtained a grant of twelve districts in Malwa, which in 1731 was raised to eighty-two. At the instance of the Nizam he rose against Dayaram Bahadur, the Governor of Malwa, killed him in battle and took possession of his dominion. He made Maheshwar his capital, which continued to be as such for upwards of fifty years. Indore became the principal town only after the treaty of Mandesore in 1818. In 1733 he obtained Indore for maintaining his army, and he was also permitted to collect with Ranoji Sindhia 35 per cent. of the revenue of Malwa. In 1736 Malhar Rao accompanied the Peshwa to Delhi, and with the aid of Sindhia, defeated a large army of the Moghuls. He figured prominently in the wars with Nizam-ul-Mulk in 1738, the Portugese at Bassein in 1739, and the Rohillas in 1748. In 1743 Malhar Rao obtained sixty-four lakhs as well as the districts of Rampura-Bhanpura and Tonk for services rendered to Madho Singh in elevating him to the chiefship of Jaipur. When he was sixty-seven years of age, he is said to have been in possession of vast territories, "great domains in the Deccan; a large estate in Khandesh; townships and forests in the valley of the Narbada, castles among the jungles of the Satpura Hill and on the bleak slopes of the Vindhya mountains and on the table-land, far spreading territories in Malwa" with an income of six millions of rupees a year. In 1766 he died at Alampur, where his monument still remains. Considering the vast extent of the territory he had obtained, the efficient state of his dominions as he left them, the greatness and courage of his deeds, and his brilliant talents and administrative skill, we must place Malhar Rao among the greatest of the Mahratta chiefs.

Malhar Rao had a son named Khande Rao, who was killed in an assault in 1754, on the Fort of Kumbher, near Dig in Rajputana. Mali Rao, the son of Khande Rao, was of unsound mind; and he died a year after his accession. During his lifetime his mother, the famous Ahilya Bai, assumed charge of the State, and she was ably assisted by Tukoji Rao Holkar, the Commander of her army. During her reign none of the neighbouring chiefs ever dared to set foot on the Holkar territory, barring a single occasion when the Rana of Udaipur rose in arms, but without success. She directly controlled the affairs of the State; and in all matters pertaining to peace or war she asserted her authority. She was very reasonable in her assessments, and respected the rights and privileges of her subjects. She heard the grievances of her people, and readily granted redress to them. Any case that went up to her on appeal obtained impartial justice; and with a view to affording facilities to the litigious public, she established courts of equity and arbitration. She maintained friendly relations with the

tributary States as well as with her neighbouring chiefs. She was highly religious and spent a large sum of money in the building of temples, choultries, dharmasalas and other useful institutions, in important centres of religious activity, from Badrinath in the north to Rameswaram in the south. She died in 1795, at Maheshwar, when she was sixty years old. Her administration was characterised by sound judgment and marked ability, and her name finds a prominent place in the history of Indian rulers.

Tukoji Rao I who had already given proof of his sterling honesty and ability as the Commander of the Mahratta army during the rule of Ahilya Bai, succeeded her in 1795. In the wars with the Rohillas, and with the English (during the first Mahratta war) he distinguished himself as a general of great ability. He ruled over the Holkar territory with much success, and soon raised it to great eminence. He left four sons, Kashi Rao, Malhar Rao, Yeshwant Rao and Vithoji Rao. Kashi Rao was an imbecile prince, but Malhar Rao was energetic and active, though of a turbulent disposition. In 1796 the former was proclaimed heir to Tukoji Rao. After their father's death, Kashi Rao and Malhar Rao contested for the *gadi*. Malhar Rao sought the aid of the Peshwa, whilst Kashi Rao was helped by Sarjerao Ghatke, the Sindhia's Minister. In the war that ensued, Malhar Rao's army was completely routed, and he too was killed.

Yeshwant Rao was the next ruler of the Holkar territory. Soon after he assumed the reins of Government, he had to face reverses of fortune; for he was taken prisoner by the Nagpur Chief. He managed, however, to escape from the prison, and after wandering from place to place, he finally gave out that he renounced all claims to the Holkar estates, but that he came forward to espouse the cause of Khande Rao, the son of Malhar Rao. After this announcement, Yeshwant Rao obtained the help of those interested in the house of Holkar; and Wazir Husain of Sarangpur and Amir Khan whose descendants are still in possession of the Tonk State, joined him. Yeshwant was hostile to the English, who defeated him in battle and annexed a portion of his dominion. He became insane, and his wife, Tulsi Bai, acted as Regent. She adopted Malhar Rao II, who ascended the throne in 1811. Soon afterwards the internal tranquillity was broken, and the State presented almost a continued scene of disorder and chaos. In 1817 the Peshwa turned his arms against the English, and Malhar Rao joined him. A great battle was fought with much loss on both sides. The English defeated the Holkar and concluded a treaty at Mandesore on the 6th January 1818. According to the terms of the treaty, among several other things, the Holkar gave away

all lands held by him south of the Narbada, and the English undertook to maintain a force to protect his territory from foreign aggression. The army of the State was reduced and a contingent force was introduced to aid the British, whenever required. The revenue of the Holkar dominion in 1817 was about five lakhs of rupees, which rose to twenty-seven lakhs before his death. He removed the capital of his State from Maheshwar to Indore. He was greatly aided in the administration of his territory by his able Minister, Tantia Jogh. Malhar Rao died in 1833 without issue. Before his death, his wife Gautama Bai, and his mother Keshri Bai adopted Martand Rao, the son of Bapu Rao, a member of the Holkar family.

Soon after the accession of Martand Rao, Hari Rao, a cousin of Malhar Rao, who had raised a revolt in 1819, and who consequently was kept in confinement at Maheshwar by Malhar Rao, was released on the 3rd February 1834, and the British who were favourably disposed towards his claims as the nearest male relative of the deceased Maharajah, formally installed him on the 17th of April. Martand Rao retired to the Deccan with an allowance of Rs. 500. Hari Rao ruled for ten years and died in 1843. He was succeeded by his adopted son, Khande Rao, a boy of eleven; but he did not survive his minority.

With the consent and approval of the widow of Maharajah Yeshwant Rao, the British Government in June 1844, elevated to the *gadi* Tukoji Rao II, a near relation of Martand Rao. During his minority the administration of the State was conducted under the supervision of the British Resident. Omed Singh, the Residency Mir Munshi, who was a man of great parts and high morals, was appointed tutor to the Prince. The latter made rapid progress in his studies, and when in 1852 he was invested with full administrative powers, he was found to be sufficiently equipped with the training necessary for a ruler. Soon after his accession to the throne, he directed his attention to the improvement of the general administration of the State, and firmly put down *sati*, infanticide and slavery. He was very sympathetic to cultivators and helped them by advancing them large sums of money; and every measure of reform that tended to promote the interests of the agriculturists in his State, received his immediate attention. He established a spinning and weaving mill at a cost of about ten lakhs of rupees. He gave away to the British his possessions in the Bombay Presidency, and received in return Satwas and Nimawar in the Central Provinces, and also the Nimar Districts of Barwani, Dhargaon, Kasrawad and Mandleshwar. In 1861 the Maharajah obtained the distinction of G. C. S. I., and also a sanad of adoption. When the State Railway from Khandwa to Indore was constructed, His Highness contributed the munificent sum of a crore of rupees. In 1875

he paid a visit to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales (His late Majesty King Edward VII) at Calcutta, and in the beginning of 1876, entertained him at Malwa on a magnificent scale. In 1877 at the Delhi Assemblage he was made a Counsellor of the Empress, when he was also presented with a banner and medal.

By his meritorious deeds His Highness the Maharajah Sir Tukoji Rao II inspired his subjects with confidence in and attachment to the House of Indore. He was cautious and judicious, and selected for his ministers men of business habits and administrative talents, and maintained a court befitting his rank and position. When he died in 1886, his subjects were loyal and contented, and the treasury was full. The revenue of the State was more than trebled during his reign. He was succeeded by his eldest son, Sivaji Rao.

H. H. the Maharajah Sivaji Rao was born in 1859 at Mandleshwar. In his early days he received a decent education. When he came to the throne, the depredations of Dantia Bhil and his adherents brought misery to the State, and he put them down with an iron hand. He made a long tour in India, and went in 1887 to England to witness the Jubilee Celebration of Queen Victoria, when Her Majesty was pleased to decorate him with the Order of G.C.S.I. While in London, His Highness gave a donation of a lakh of rupees to the Imperial Institute. During his time he raised many palatial buildings of exquisite taste. Soon after he returned from the Delhi Durbar of 1903, he voluntarily resigned his powers in favour of his only son, Prince Tukoji Rao III; and installing him on the *gadi*, the Maharajah went into retirement and lived for the rest of his days the life of a recluse.

His Highness the Maharajah Tukoji Rao III was born on the 26th November 1890. He received his early education in the Daly College, and later on he studied at the Mayo College, Ajmere, first under the guardianship of Mr. Percy Hyde and then under Captain F. A. Forbes. In 1905 Mr. H. Clogstoun, C. I. E., was appointed guardian. While at college, his gentle manners and affable disposition made him a great favourite with the teaching staff as well as with his fellow-students. He took an active part in all games and sports. Much to his credit and to the admiration of those who watched his educational progress, he obtained the college diploma in 1908. After leaving college he received a training in the intricacies of law under Mr. Saray Mul Bapna, a District and Sessions Judge of the State. He frequently visited the Council Chamber to hear the deliberations, and thus acquired a practical knowledge of administrative work in the various departments of the State. Each member of the Council would visit His Highness and

explain to him the nature of the work done by him. In this way the Maharajah has had a thorough insight into the different branches of administration. For nearly a year His Highness looked after the Palace establishment. In the beginning of 1910, he toured in some of the important districts of the State, accompanied by the Minister, the Revenue Member of the Council, and other important officers.

In November 1905, when His Majesty the King-Emperor visited Indore as Prince of Wales, His Majesty held there his first Indian Durbar, at which the Chiefs of Central India assembled to pay their loyal homage to the heir-apparent to the British Throne. His Majesty was then pleased to open the King Edward Hall, which was erected by the Indore Durbar in commemoration of the accession of King Edward to the throne. In the course of the speech the young Maharajah delivered on the occasion, His Highness observed :—

The honour which Your Royal Highness has conferred on me and my State by your presence here makes this day the most memorable in my life. My grandfather was similarly honoured by His Most Gracious Majesty, our present Emperor (King Edward VII), when he was Prince of Wales, and my father who took part in those rejoicings of thirty years ago, cherishes their memory undimmed. It was he who designed this building to commemorate His Majesty's accession, and I owe him a debt of gratitude for having bequeathed to me the privilege of sharing in this token of loyal service to His Majesty, and the great distinction of welcoming Your Royal Highnesses to crown our undertaking with this gracious mark of Your Royal approval in the presence of my brother chiefs assembled to do honour to Your Royal Highnesses.

In April 1910, the Maharajah, the Maharani and *suite* left for Europe. They visited England, France and Italy. Their Majesties the King and the Queen accorded them a private reception at Buckingham Palace. His Highness attended the State reception to the Ministers of the overseas Dominions, at the Foreign Office, and was also present at several other important functions. At the Coronation of Their Imperial Majesties, a special place was allotted to Their Highnesses. The Maharajah who joined the royal procession was given the second place, while the Maharani Sahiba witnessed the proceedings from a room provided for her in St. James's Street. After spending a year and a half on the continent, and much benefited by the long tour, Their Highnesses and party returned to India in October 1911.

On the 6th November 1911, His Highness the Maharajah was invested with the full powers of a Ruling Chief. The following *Kharita* from the Viceroy was read by his Agent in open Durbar before the investiture ceremony began :—

My honoured and valued friend :—It is with great pleasure that I address

Your Highness on the occasion of your investiture with full ruling powers in your State, which I have authorized Mr. O'Dwyer, my Agent in Central India, to conduct. I offer Your Highness my cordial congratulations on your assumption of the duties, responsibilities, and privileges attaching to your high position. I am confident that you will administer the State wisely and to the benefit of your subjects, and that you will use your best endeavours to prove yourself worthy of the trust now reposed in you. As His Majesty's Secretary of State has already informed you, you will be expected for a time to consult the Resident in important matters and not to act contrary to his advice without further reference to my Agent in Central India, especially in matters involving the reversal of the decisions of the Council of Regency. Rest assured that in time of doubt, or difficulty, you can count upon my friendship and support, and in all circumstances you will be able to turn for advice and assistance to my Agent in Central India and to your Resident. I desire to express the high consideration which I entertain for Your Highness and to subscribe myself, Your Highness's sincere friend, Hardinge of Penshurst.

In congratulating His Highness on his investiture Mr. O'Dwyer observed :—

Your Highness will regard it as doubly auspicious that it enables Your Highness to fulfil your natural and cherished desire of paying your homage to the King-Emperor at Delhi, a few weeks hence, as the Ruling Chief of one of the greatest historic States of India, a State which during a long and close connection with the Supreme Government, extending over nearly a hundred years from the Mandasore treaty of 1818, has steadily grown in prosperity and dignity, and which I am convinced under Your Highness's rule will be second to none in devotion to the Imperial Throne and loyalty to the Government. Your Highness now takes into your own hands the administration which during the minority of nine years, has been conducted on your behalf by the Council of Regency under the control of the Government of India and local representatives. In that period under a succession of capable Residents, of whom I am glad to see Mr. Bosanquet here to-day, and thanks to the mature experience and administrative ability of the Minister, Rai Bahadur Nanak Chand C. I. E., and the support of his colleagues in the Council of Regency, the State has made steady and substantial progress.

Your Highness, though young in years, has already travelled far and seen much. You will have learnt in the West that great honour and high position carry with them weighty responsibilities and that from great opportunities are expected great results. Your Highness starts on your career well equipped for the heavy task that lies before you.

The house of Holkar has proud traditions and a great name which is writ large in the annals of India. It has produced famous soldiers and wise administrators. But the name which stands out above all theirs and which is

still revered through the length and breadth of Central India in the same way as the memory of Queen Victoria the Great is still venerated throughout the British Empire, is that of your great predecessor, the Maharanee Ahalya Bhai.

His Highness the Maharajah in reply, said:—"Mr. O'Dwyer—It is difficult to respond in adequate terms to the eloquent address in which you have summed up the position which confronts me. I speak with a deep consciousness of all that to-day's ceremony of my investiture with full powers implies. As you have observed, under the course of education mapped out for me by the Government of India, I have been able to go to Europe to assimilate something of the teaching of the West, and I have learnt there that, as you say, the greater the power and the higher the position, the greater are the responsibilities. I have seen with my own eyes the shining example of His Most Gracious Majesty, our beloved King-Emperor, and I have brought home with me a vivid and lasting memory of His Majesty's graciousness and keen interest in all that concerns the welfare of the people of this great Empire and of the deep love which he inspires. I assure you, Mr. O'Dwyer, that devotion to the Throne will be the guiding star of my life, as it has been of my predecessors, and under Providence I shall endeavour as the loyal chief of a loyal State and a proper ruler of my people so to discharge my duties that order and happiness may reign in this State. To face this task I know that I can rely on the affections of my people, the advice of my officers and the help of Government"

Prominent among the measures of reform in the administrative machinery of the State during the Regency, are the introduction of an Equitable Land Revenue Settlement, the construction on a large scale of roads and buildings, the reform of the police, the improvement of the judiciary, the reorganization of the forest department, and the salutary changes introduced in the finance, customs, excise and education departments. The net result of these reforms manifested itself in the growth of the population and the promotion of their loyalty and contentment, and the increased financial prosperity of the State. While the expenditure has risen from forty-five to sixty lakhs, the revenue too has considerably increased from fifty-eight to eight-one lakhs.

Soon after the investiture, His Highness held his first Durbar in the old palace. In a short Urdu speech His Highness thanked all his officers for the excellent manner in which they carried on the administration during his minority, and appreciated their loyal, zealous, and faithful services to the State. The Maharajah made the following presents on the occasion:—Rs. 40,000 to Rai Bahadur Nanak Chand, C.I.E., Minister; Rs. 40,000 to Rao Bahadur K. V. Mulye, Member of Council; Rs. 15,000 to Dr. Atmaram; Rs. 15,000 to Mr. Kamalakar; Rs. 10,000 each to

Messrs. V. B. Jadhav, and B. Borade, A.-D.-C's to His Highness; Rs. 5,000 to Mr. R. B. Yadhav, A.-D.-C to His Highness; Rs. 10,000 to Mr. Seraimal Bapua, second Private Secretary to His Highness; and Rs. 12,000 to Dr. Tambe, State Surgeon.

The area of Indore is 9,500 square miles with a population of over nine lakhs. There are many Jaghirdars in the State besides some hereditary Zamindars. Hindus form the major portion of the population, and the languages spoken are Rajasthani, Nemari, Malwi, Rangri, Hindi and Urdu. The great Vindhyan range and its branches form the hilly tracts of the State. The Chambal and the Narbada are the principal rivers. The general elevation of the Indore State is 1,800 feet above the level of the sea, and the climate therefore is generally healthy. The principal crops are *jowar*, wheat, cotton, gram, *bajra*, *macca*, linseed, rice, sugarcane, poppy and tobacco. The soil which is of the black cotton variety, is very fertile. Poppy is grown on an extensive scale. The remaining land affords pasture for cattle. The only important minerals found are limestone and basalt.

There are numerous wells and channels by which the land is irrigated. Some concessions are shown to well-sinkers. Loans are advanced by the State to cultivators for purchasing bullocks, and for digging new wells and repairing old ones. The ownership of the land solely vests in the State. Indore is also noted for cattle as well as camel breeding, as the State contains an extensive pasture land. Buffalo's milk is preferred for its richness to cow's milk. Camels are used for riding purposes and also for carrying loads. It is interesting to learn that the cost of feeding a camel is about four annas a day. In villages coarse cloths and blankets are woven. Opium is also manufactured. There are five ginning and two pressing factories.

Each of the five districts into which the State is divided for administrative purposes, is under the control of an officer known as Subah, who exercises both revenue and magisterial powers. Each district is again sub-divided into parganas. An Amin is in charge of each pargana. Hindi, (Deonagri) written in Balbodh characters, is generally the official language. The revenue, judicial and police correspondence is carried on in Hindi; but it is optional to make a report in English or Marathi, so far as the higher executive officers are concerned. The State accounts are kept in Marathi. During the ministry of the late Rajah Sir T. Madhava Rao, a regular postal system was introduced, and the State has its own stamps.

The Sadar Adalat or Chief Court is the highest civil and criminal tribunal in the State, presided over by a Chief Judge and a *puisne* Judge. It exercises control over all the subordinate courts. To

dispose of civil matters there are three courts—the Nizam Adalat, the City Munsiff's Court, and the Small Causes Court. In each Zilla there is a District Judge, a Munsiff and an Amin. In the Indore city there is a Sessions Judge. There are also two City Magistrates, one exercising the powers of a District Magistrate, and the other, those of a first class Magistrate. All sentences of death, transportation, or imprisonment for life, require the confirmation of the Maharajah. There is a central jail at Indore with four district jails.

The State forces consist of 210 artillery, 800 cavalry, 748 infantry, with 18 guns. There is also a transport corps. The army is maintained at a cost of seven lakhs per annum. The police staff is composed of an Inspector-General, a Deputy Inspector-General, two City Superintendents, six District Inspectors, fifty-two Sub-Inspectors, 224 head constables, 1703 constables, one risaldar and four daffadars.

The Holkar College affiliated to the Allahabad University, draws its students from Dhar, Dewas, and Central India generally. The graduates of the State who wish to study medicine, are given scholarships and sent to the Grant Medical College, Bombay. In the City Hospital some students are trained as hospital assistants. There is a hospital in the Residency, where also medicine is taught. Education in engineering is provided on similar lines. Surveyors and Overseers are trained in a class which is under the superintendence of the State Engineer. Besides the Holkar College, there are ninety-two schools (a High School and ninety-one lower secondary schools), eight girls' schools, and five mixed schools for boys and girls. There are fourteen Municipalities. The British coin is in currency. Medical relief is afforded by about twenty-five hospitals and dispensaries. The Central Tukoji Rao Hospital is in the city.

The full titles of the Maharajah are—His Highness the Maharajah Dhirajah Rai Rajeshwar Sawai Tukoji Rao Holkar Bahadur. His Highness is entitled to a salute of twenty-one guns permanently within his own State, and nineteen guns elsewhere. It is only a few months since His Highness was invested with full ruling powers, and there are already signs of progress in various directions. Young as he is, the Maharajah realises his responsibilities as one of the leading chiefs of Central India, and endeavours efficiently to administer his vast State. His Highness has before him many long years of happy and prosperous reign, and the State is sure to derive the fullest benefit from his wise and beneficent rule.

HER HIGHNESS THE NAWAB SULTAN JAHAN BEGUM, G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E., C. I., BEGUM OF BHOPAL

BHOPAL is an important Mahomedan State in Central India, which was founded more than two hundred years ago by an Afghan, named Dost Mahomed Khan. An interesting feature about it is that from 1819 it has been successfully administered by four female rulers in succession. After several vicissitudes of fortune, Dost Mahomed built a fort at Islamnagar which he made his headquarters, and acquired possession of the neighbouring territories. In 1722 he set himself up as an independent chief with the title of Nawab. Attracted by the environments of Bhopal, he resolved to build his principal town there, and formed plans for laying the foundation of a fort, now known as the Fort of Fatehgarh. The Nizam who was ill-disposed towards Dost Mahomed, halted near the Fort of Islamnagar on his way to Hyderabad to quell the rebellion raised by his younger son, Nazir Jung. Dost Mahomed however obtained the peaceful departure of the Nizam by making over his eldest son, Yar Mahomed Khan, as a hostage. After an adventurous career he died in 1726, at the age of sixty-six as the chief of an orderly State. He left behind him several sons and five daughters. The Nobles placed on the *masnad* Sultan Mahomed Khan, one of the younger sons of Dost Mahomed. Yar Mahomed Khan, who was at Hyderabad with the Nizam, advanced to Bhopal with an army and all the insignia of royalty, and without much difficulty took the reins of Government from his younger brother. Like his father he was bent upon extending his territory, and when he died in 1742, he was the possessor of Udayapur, Sewans and Pathari. His eldest son, Faiz Mahomed Khan, succeeded him, while yet a boy of eleven years. After he ascended the throne, he became too religious to carry on the administration of the State. Mamola Sahiba, the widow of Yar Mahomed Khan, and the Minister, Bijai Ram, ably managed the affairs of the State. Nawab Faiz Mahomed Khan died in 1777, leaving no issue, and his

brother Hayat Mahomed Khan succeeded him. Hayat Mahomed too was of a religious turn of mind. He entrusted the management of his State to a Gond, named Faulad Khan, who, at his instance, embraced the Muslim faith. The revenue of the State was twenty lakhs, of which five lakhs were devoted to the expenses of the chief, whilst the remaining fifteen lakhs went towards maintaining the Durbar establishments. In 1778 an English army marched through Bhopal to Bombay, when the Nawab spontaneously came forward, and rendered all possible aid to them. This act of generosity, prompted by no selfish aim, produced a favourable impression on the British authorities. Faulad Khan was murdered by a member of the chief's family, and Chote Khan, a Brahmin convert to Mahomedanism, was appointed Minister. He proved a very capable officer and established friendly relations with all the neighbouring Mahratta chiefs.

In 1808 Ghaus Mahomed, son of Hayat Mahomed Khan, became ruler and had, as his Minister, Wazir Mahomed Khan, the great-grandson of Dost Mahomed Khan. But the Minister who was already powerful, became the *de facto* ruler of the State. Desirous of taking back the reins of administration into his own hands, Ghaus Mahomed applied for help to Sadiq Ali, the General of the Nagpur Chief. The latter entered Bhopal to banish the Minister. Wazir immediately retired to Ginnurgarh for a time; but he soon returned and made Ghaus Mahomed go to Raisen, and assumed the entire management of the State. From that day forward, the sovereignty has vested in the hands of Wazir and his descendants.

Wazir who died in 1816, left two sons—Amir and Nazar. The elder who led a wayward life, was feeble in mind and body. Wazir therefore selected his second son to succeed him without the title of Nawab, which was still retained by Ghaus Mahomed, even in retirement. Nazar married Gohar Begum, the daughter of Ghaus Mahomed. His first desire was to get into the good graces of the British, and with this intention, he entered into negotiations with them in 1818. He was required to assist them with an auxiliary force of 600 horse and 400 foot, the first beginning of the Bhopal Battalion. The British Government restored to him in return the five *parganas* held formerly by the Vinchur Chiefs, and also the Fort of Islamnagar, which was in Sindhia's dominions. This negotiation proved exceedingly beneficial to the Bhopal Durbar. The Nawab who had been the possessor of only a few fortresses, now suddenly became the lord of a princely domain, while his revenues, which, in the beginning of the reign, did not exceed a lakh, amounted to fifteen lakhs. An accidental discharge of a pistol by

his young brother-in-law, caused his death in 1819. Nazar Mahomed left behind him a record of a life spent most usefully in furthering the interests of his State. His commanding personality, courtly manners and great ability won him many friends. He had an only daughter Sikandar Begum. With the concurrence of the Bhopal Nobles and the sanction of the British Government, it was decided that Munir Mahomed Khan, nephew of Nazar Mahomed Khan, and son of Amir Mahomed Khan, should succeed under the regency of Gohur Begum, the widow of Nazar, better known as Kudsia Begum, and that he should eventually marry Sikandar Begum, so that the rule in Wazir's branch might be secured. Relations between Munir Mahomed and Kudsia Begum soon became strained, as the former asserted his authority. The confusion thus caused called for the interference of the Political Agent, who arranged that Munir Mahomed should resign in favor of his younger brother, Jahangir Mahomed Khan, and that he should receive a jaghir yielding Rs. 40,000 a year, as compensation. Jahangir Mahomed accordingly married Sikander Begum in 1835, and Kudsia Begum continued to administer the State herself. Dissensions arose between the new Nawab and Kudsia Begum, which finally assumed such formidable proportions that the British stepped in and made the Begum live in retirement, receiving a life-annuity of five lakhs. At the same time they entrusted the management of the State to the Nawab. At the Imperial Assemblage held at Delhi in 1877, the Begum was decorated with the Order of the Imperial Cross. She died in 1881 at the age of eighty-two.

On the 30th November 1837, Nawab Jahangir was invested with full administrative powers. A daughter was born to Sikandar Begum on the 29th July 1838, and she was named Shah Jahan Begum. The Nawab instituted many reforms, the most important of them being the removal of the army from the heart of the town to Jahangirabad. Being himself a highly cultured man, he encouraged men of learning. He died very young on the 9th December 1844, at the comparatively early age of twenty-seven. He left a will that his illegitimate son, Dastagir, should succeed him, and that his daughter, Shah Jahan by Sikandar Begum, should be married to a descendant of Wazir Mahomed. The East India Company however set aside the will, and recognised the succession of Shah Jahan, as there was already a precedent in the admission of the claims of Sikandar Begum. It was also decided that the future husband of Shah Jahan Begum should become the Chief of Bhopal. He was to be selected from the Bhopal family with a view to combining both the branches, descended from Ghaus Mahomed and Wazir Mahomed Khan. Faujdar Mahomed Khan, brother of

Kudsia Begum, was appointed Minister in co-operation with Sikandar Begum. Shah Jahan Begum, who was only seven years old, was proclaimed Ruler of Bhopal, and a regency was formed, consisting of Sikandar Begum, and the Minister, Mian Faujdar Mahomed Khan, the youngest son of Nawab Ghaus Mahomed Khan. The dual rule of the Regent and the Minister was a thorough failure. Mian Faujdar resigned, and Sikandar Begum alone managed the affairs of the State, until her daughter attained her majority. Sikandar Begum abolished the farming of revenues and trade monopolies, re-organised the army and the police, and liquidated the State debts. She travelled through her dominions, and thus acquired a personal knowledge of the condition of the ryots.

On the 26th July 1855, Shah Jahan Begum married Bakshi Baki Mahomed Khan, the Commander-in-Chief of the State army. The English recognised him as Nawab consort and conferred on him the distinction of Nawab-Nazir-ud-daula Umrao Dula Bahadur. He was also granted a personal salute of seventeen guns. The authorities did not interfere with the regency of Sikandar Begum, but desired its continuance, until her daughter was twenty-one years old. In 1857 when the great Mutiny shook the foundations of British rule in India, Sikandar Begum behaved most loyally to the English and proved herself a woman of energy, and courage. She gave asylum to many high European, officials; sent detachments to protect the places where Englishmen were stationed, and supplied the British troops with grain and forage. When the mutiny was quelled and order was restored, it was her desire that she should no longer be regarded as the Regent but as the Ruling Chief of Bhopal. Her daughter, Shah Jahan Begum, waived her claims in favor of her mother, and requested that the latter should be placed on the *gadi*, although she had then come of age. The British Government in compliance with the wishes of both the mother and the daughter, formally installed Sikandar Begum as Chief of Bhopal. On the 7th January 1861, at a durbar held at Jubbalpore, the Viceroy, H. E. Lord Canning, presented the Begum with a *sanad* and granted her the Berasia Pargana. In November of the same year, Her Highness Sikandar Begum obtained the distinction of G. C. S. I., and in 1862 she received a *sanad* of adoption. She went on a pilgrimage to Mecca in 1864, and passed away in 1868, when she was only fifty-one years of age. Nawab Shah Jahan Begum who had succeeded nominally on the 11th April 1845, was proclaimed Ruler of Bhopal, and her daughter, Sultan Jahan, was declared heir-apparent.

In December 1869, Her Highness the Nawab Shah Jahan Begum visited Calcutta, where she was introduced to H. R. H. the Duke of

Edinburgh. The insignia of the Order of G. C. S. I., was conferred upon Her Highness in 1872. At the Delhi Assemblage in 1877, she received a banner and medal. In 1879 the Government of India granted her permission to establish an Opium Agency in Bhopal. In 1880 she agreed to defray the cost of the railway line from Hoshangabad to Bhopal ; and in 1891 she ceded lands for the Bhopal-Ujjain line and abolished all transit duties on salt, when the Government of India consented to pay her a compensation of Rs. 10,000 per annum. The first Viceroy to visit Bhopal was H. E. Lord Lansdowne. He did so in 1891, when Her Highness and her successors were exempted for the future from presenting *nazars* (complimentary gifts), while interviewing the Viceroy. Nawab Shah Jahan Begum died on the 16th June 1901.

Her Highness the Nawab Sultan Jahan Begum, the present ruler, who succeeded her mother, at the age of forty-three, entered on a new epoch, in the history of her monarchy. Royal in her tastes and habits, kind and generous, she was welcomed by all classes of her subjects. A year after she ascended the throne, she had a bereavement in the death of her husband, the Nawab consort, who enjoyed the distinction of Nazir-ud-daula Sultan Dula Ihtisham-ul-mulk Alijah and whom she married in 1874. In 1904 Her Highness went on a pilgrimage to Mecca, and the next year she had the honour of being presented to Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and the Princess of Wales at Indore, when they decorated her with the insignia of the Order of G. C. I. E.

Her Highness is fond of travel. She tours frequently round her own State and learns in person the needs of her subjects. Wherever she goes, she advocates the cause of education. The keen practical interest the Begum evinces in education, manifested itself in the munificent donation by Her Highness of Rs. 2,75,000 to the Muslim University. In all her speeches, education finds a prominent place. When distributing prizes to the Alexandra Nobles' School, in March 1907, she delivered a highly interesting address on education, in the course of which she observed :—

"By education I do not mean that the students should be made to learn like parrots a few books by heart, and thus prove themselves no better than animals carrying some books on their back. On the other hand true education is a blessing to man. It illumines his mind, and it is with the light of knowledge that he can realise his own position, recognise the existence of God and His prophets, and distinguish between good and bad. It teaches him to obey and serve with sincere loyalty, frees him from narrow-minded prejudices and instils in him a spirit of self-respect, honesty, rectitude, love and benevolence; and it leads to refinement and culture."

Nor is the Begum less interested in the economic development and commercial progress of her State. In 1905 she opened a Female Industrial School to train girls in self-supporting industries. She favours commercial as well as literary education. On the occasion of Her Highness's birthday in 1910, she exhorted the students of the new High School to take to trade and commerce. She warned them that they should not all look to Government for appointments, and that, if they did, the country would lose the best and most useful elements of the community. She further added :—" You should always bear in mind that the key of the wealth and prosperity of nations as well as of individuals, is trade and commerce. This is the open secret of the greatness of the West; and your education should fully impress this point upon you. Always remember that, by turning your attention to the arts of your own country, you can be of more use to it than you imagine, and you can enrich yourself as well as your country."

Lord and Lady Minto visited the State in December 1909. The Viceroy opened the new Alexandra High School and the King Edward Museum. Lady Minto visited the Lady Lansdowne Hospital and the Sultania Girls' School. She also inaugurated the Princess of Wales' Ladies Club. At the Sultania Girls' School Her Excellency said :—

In no State in India should the condition of its female population be so well-considered as here in Bhopal, having as it has had, a succession of four female rulers. Under such unique circumstances, it is peculiarly fitting that the womanly heart of the ruler of Bhopal should turn in sympathy to female education. The influence of woman is as great, as vast and as beneficial in India as in the western hemisphere. All over the world it is the mothers who have influenced past generations, and who will still exert that influence over the generations of the present and of the future; but it must be remembered that in order to maintain a healthy influence, the women of all nations must be in sympathy and in touch with the times.

Again at the Princess of Wales' Club Her Excellency said :—

After school days are over, one's further education is obtained by conversing and mingling with others, and no place could be better suited for this purpose than an institution such as this. Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, will, I am sure, be deeply interested to know that her memory is being perpetuated in the formation of this Ladies' Club, and I trust that it will add brightness and new interest to the social life of the ladies of Bhopal. And I can offer no better advice to the members than to imitate in their lives and works the virtues of the late Queen Victoria, of the Princess of Wales, and also of Her Highness the Begum.

In January 1910, Her Highness held a grand durbar on the occasion of her birthday. She made a striking speech in which she pleaded for more

active efforts to spread education and emphasised the value and importance of genuine loyalty to the British Throne. She declared in no uncertain terms that loyalty to her means loyalty to the British Government, as the interests of both are identical. The same year the Begum was created a G.C.S.I.

Last year the Begum went to England to witness the coronation ceremony of His Imperial Majesty. She attended His Majesty's *levee* at Buckingham Palace, and was invited to the garden party. She visited Her Majesty Queen Alexandra, when cordial greetings were exchanged. During her memorable voyage, she passed through Germany, Switzerland, Austria-Hungary, France, Turkey and Egypt. While in Constantinople she had the honour of an interview with His Majesty the Sultan of Turkey, who was pleased to present her with the sacred relic of a hair of the Prophet's beard. Her Highness values it as a priceless gift, and is sincerely grateful to the Sultan for the great honour thus bestowed on her. In her travels in the West she was forcibly struck with the prosperity of the different countries, the high standard of agriculture and the evidences of immense wealth. That she was highly impressed with the greatness of Britain and the efficiency of British institutions is revealed to us by her own words:—' I have returned after my travels a greater believer in the justice, peace and freedom of the British Empire.'

She addressed the members of the Ladies' Club on her impressions of the long tour, and from the eloquent speech delivered on the 29th January 1912, we take the following extracts:—

The great qualities of the Western nations, their expanding wealth and their swift progress in all the walks of life, are all due to the women of these countries being well educated, and to the training they impart to their children. From the palaces of kings and noblemen down to the humble cottages of the labourer in the field, you find everywhere evidence of the noticeable training the children receive at their mothers' knees. In everyday life the mothers follow the broad principles of sanitation and hygiene which are so well understood in those parts, and the children are therefore brought up in very healthy surroundings, a fact which has the best of influence on them. From the first they learn to detest untruthfulness and to sympathise with their fellow-beings, to love their country, to be courteous to everybody, to respect their elders, to have high aims and ambitions, and to love and obey their king. By the time the children are nine or ten years of age, they have gone through a course of training, the influence of which lasts from the cradle to the grave.

Members of the Club, you should therefore make the education of your sex the chief object of your lives; you should help the poor and always remember that the best of al things you could do is to help the members of

your sex to get a good education. Instead of wasting money on absurd ceremonies, you should give your assistance to girls' schools, to women's clubs and to the newspapers and magazines that serve the interests of Indian women. To these things you should give your attention ; for female education is the foundation of all national success and progress. Remember that even if one generation got good education, the ship of our country will be steered clear of the rocks of poverty and shoals of ignorance. I might add in this connection that whilst desiring to promote the spread of education in every way, I do not much care for the liberty that oversteps the limits of propriety. I am sure that our *pardhanashin* ladies, and even many of the educated ones amongst them, have no idea of the extent of the liberty of the women in Europe ; and though this may be suitable for that continent or it may only be a result of the teachings of Christianity, I have no hesitation in saying that liberty is utterly unsuited to the conditions of this country and particularly in the case of Mahomedans for whom the word of God will always continue to be the only true and successful guide. We must act on the precious saying of our Prophet (hallowed be his name) : 'Take only that which is clean and leave that which is not so.' Mahomedan women should never think of overstepping the limits placed on their liberty by Islam, for the liberty granted by our religion is quite ample to allow of our making sufficient advancement and enjoying suitable privileges, and it will save us from many a pitfall and blunder.

Educate yourselves, therefore, and follow the tenets of Islam strictly if you wish to improve your condition and to achieve success in this world. We must thank God that the British Government is also extremely desirous of spreading education, while there is no wish dearer than this to the heart of our Emperor. If we neglect these opportunities, we will have only ourselves to blame for the incalculable loss we shall suffer.

In December 1911, the Begum attended the Imperial Durbar at Delhi, and there His Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor conferred on Her Highness the high distinction of the Crown of India. In March 1912, Her Highness attended a meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council, where she remained for a few hours, evidently interested in the proceedings.

To signalise and commemorate in a tangible form, the visit to India, of Her Imperial Majesty the Queen-Empress, the Begum Sahiba proposes to found a model educational institution for women, at Delhi, at an initial cost of about twelve lakhs of rupees. She has set forth her ideas on the scheme in an open letter, which is in circulation throughout India, and from which we extract the following :—

In connection with Their Majesties' visit to Delhi the thought has occurred to me that though the great event of December last will live in the pages of history for all time, and though the memories of those days will even be hand-

ed down to future generations, the event yet demands a notable monument of public utility raised by the grateful women of India to commemorate the coming of the great Queen from across the seas to Delhi for her coronation. Delhi has known great events and gorgeous celebrations; but none of a more significant character than the visit of Queen Mary, and it is all the more incumbent on us, the women of India, to signalise her visit in a suitable way and thus prove to the world at large that behind the purdah also beat heart, quite as grateful as those of men to their sovereign and his consort, and quite as appreciative of the necessity for moving with the times. After careful consideration I have come to the conclusion that no memorial could better serve our purpose than a well-endowed and well-conducted institution at Delhi for the education of women. It is evident that the education of women is necessary in all countries and in all stages of civilisation, but in India of all countries of the world and at the stage of civilisation in which we find ourselves it is most necessary, for it is universally acknowledged that the ignorance of women in this country is the greatest clog to the wheel of progress.

My idea regarding the institution I have proposed is that we should begin with a well-equipped school which, in the course of time, will become a model institution of its kind. In this school provision ought to be made for the education of girls of rich as well as poor families. Twelve lakhs of rupees are, in my opinion, necessary at the outset—four lakhs for building purposes, and eight lakhs for endowment. The details of the scheme are being worked out, and I shall be very pleased to receive suggestions in this connection. For my own part I shall be delighted to give a lakh of rupees from the State and 20,000 from my private purse. My daughters-in-law have also expressed practical sympathy with my scheme, the eldest and the second contributing Rs. 7,000 each, and the third Rs. 5,000.

I have every reason to hope and believe that my scheme will commend itself to all friends of India who have the education of women at heart and to all my sisters, from Ranis and Begums down to ladies in humbler walks of life, and with their assistance, moral and material, I am absolutely confident of unqualified success.

That Her Highness is a liberal patron of learning and a devout follower of Islam, is evidenced by the fact that she has allowed a monthly contribution of Rs. 200 towards the expenses of the publication of a biography of the Prophet by Shams-ul-ulama Maulan Shebii Nomani.

The area of Bhopal is 6902 square miles with a population of about 900,000, of whom 73 per cent. are Hindus, 14 per cent. Animists, and 13 per cent. Mahomedans. The languages spoken are Western Hindi, Malwa and Urdu. Brahmins and Rajputs are the chief landholders; Lodhis, Khatis, Kachhis, and Kurmis are the principal cultivators. The Hindus in the Bhopal city dress after the Mahomedan fashion, so that it is difficult to distinguish the one from

the other. The only important special crop is poppy. The forests of the State are divided into three classes—reserved, protected, and village protected. The chief mineral product is sandstone. Iron-stone is also found in some places. The most lucrative industry is the manufacture of Malwa opium, chiefly for the China market. A combined ginning factory, saw-mill, and grass-press, and a few flour mills are in the city.

The Chief of Bhopal has full powers in all administrative matters, judicial and general, with power to pass sentences of death. Two ministers, *viz.*, Muin-ul-muham, who is in charge of revenue, and Nasir-ul-muham holding the portfolio of police and judiciary, assist Her Highness in the administration of the State. There are also three councils, the Ijlas-i-kamil of four members, a sort of Privy Council, whose duties are to advise the Chief and to enquire into the cases that are referred to them; the Kamti-i-mal which consists of eight members and frames rules regarding finance, and the Kamti-i-Diwan-i-wa Faujdari which deals with legislative work. The accounts and correspondence are kept in Urdu, which is the chief language of the State.

There are in all forty-four courts comprising the Chief Court, two Judges' Courts, two Assistant Judges' Courts, two City Magistrates' Courts, one Sadar Amin's Court, one Munsiff's Court, six District Magistrates' and Assistant Magistrates' Courts. The Nazims and Naib Nazims are invested with the powers of District and First Class Magistrates, and are empowered to try civil suits up to a claim of Rs. 1,000. They also hear appeals from Tahsildar's Courts. The Sadar-ul-muham at Bhopal has the powers of a Sessions Judge, and hears appeals from the City Magistrates. The other appellate courts are those presided over by Nasir-ul-muham and Naib Nasir-ul-muham. Her Highness hears all final appeals. All sentences of death, transportation or imprisonment for life are passed, subject to her confirmation.

Sulimania High School, affiliated to the Allahabad University, teaches up to the Entrance standard. There are also seven other schools, including two girls' schools and seventy-six primary schools in the districts. The Victoria Girls' School (started in 1891) has on its rolls over 180 pupils, who receive instruction in the three R's and needle work, and also in the Koran. There is an institution for *purdah* girls of respectable family, and Asafia school, called after Her Highness's daughter, Princess Asaf Jahan, teaches medicine (Unani), anatomy and surgery. A public library is kept open in the Benazir Palace.

There are thirty-seven unani hospitals, a military hospital at Jahangirabad, and a dispensary in the lines of the Victoria Lancers. The Lady Lansdowne hospital, which is under a European lady doctor,

and which has a midwifery class attached to it, gives medical aid to *gosha* women. The State has a postal system of its own. There is a municipality in the town of Bhopal. The State minted its own coin till 1899, when the British coin came into currency.

The army of Bhopal consists of Regulars, Irregulars, and the Imperial Service Cavalry, and numbers 1878 of all ranks, with a military band which plays European music. They are all maintained at a cost of five lakhs. The strength of the police is 2518. The Irregular Cavalry supplies a mounted police of 351. There is a central jail in Bhopal city with four subordinate jails. The convicts are employed in various industries, and the tiles manufactured by them are largely used throughout Central India.

Her Highness the Begum Sahiba has three sons, Nawab Mahomed Nasr-ul-lah Khan, Sahibzada Colonel Ubaid-ul-lah Khan, and Sahibzada Mahomed Hamid-ul-lah Khan. The heir-apparent who was born on the 4th December 1876, renders very valuable assistance to his august mother in the carrying out of the affairs of the Durbar. Sahibzada Colonel Ubaid-ul-lah Khan is responsible for the efficient management of the Bhopal army. The Begum is entitled to a local salute of twenty-one guns, and of nineteen guns outside her territory.

The chief traits of Her Highness's character are a strong will, broad understanding, and a keen desire to perform faithfully her private and public duties, and to be the benefactor of her people. The enlightened ruler of Bhopal whose fame rests on the gratitude and the enduring love of her people, has before her a glorious and useful life, and her further efforts to improve the administration on modern lines will no doubt be crowned with complete success.

HIS HIGHNESS THE BEGLAR BEGI MIR SIR MAHMUD KHAN II, G.C.I.E., WALI OF KALAT

THOUGH there is a tradition that Kalat was originally under the sway of Hindu rulers, it has been under the control of Mahomedan Chiefs since the seventh century. The Ahmedzais, the ancestors of the Chief of Kalat, who are of Arab descent, are said to have settled at Surat near Kalat (Baluchistan). They gradually spread their power and rose to prominence. One of the Ahmedzai Chiefs, Amir Hasan, captured Kalat from the Moghul Governor, and it was successfully retained by his successors for twelve generations till the rise of Amir Ahmed in 1666-67. The appellation Ahmedzai is derived from this Amir Ahmed. The Chiefs of Kalat were never absolutely independent, as there was always a central authority to whose influence they had to yield. Originally they were subject to the Moghul Emperors, and then they became the vassals of the Afghan rulers.

Soon after the decline of the Moghul power, the chiefs adopted measures to promote union and harmony among the scattered units of their tribes, and succeeded in raising the status of these highlanders by providing for their material comforts in several ways. A common interest was thus created in the community, and this went much to unify the people.

Mir Ahmed I and three of his successors contributed largely to the expansion and improvement of the State. In 1750 Mir Muhammad Nasir Khan I ascended the *gadi* and reigned for forty-four years. He proved himself a capable ruler. His piety, administrative skill and love of fair play, made him very popular amongst his subjects ; and during his long and peaceful rule Kalat enjoyed continued prosperity. He was a close follower of the laws of Mahomed. In recognition of his military valour and administrative talent, the Afghan kings conferred on him the titles of Beglar Begi (Chief of Chiefs) and Wali-i-Kalat (Governor of Kalat). After him came Mir Mahmud Khan and Mir Mehrab Khan. During their time the internal

tranquillity of the State was much disturbed, and there were constant feuds with the neighbouring chiefs. Mir Mehrab Khan was a cruel ruler and he murdered many of the chiefs under him. As he was hostile to the English, who were then growing in power and influence, he was soon brought to trouble. The English captured Kalat, and he was killed in the assault. They then placed on the throne Shah Nawaz Khan, with Lieutenant Loveday as Political Officer. When in 1840 the Sarawan tribesmen raised a revolt, Shah Nawaz Khan was compelled to abdicate and Mir Nasir Khan II, the son of Mehrab Khan, succeeded him. On his death in 1857, his brother Khudadad Khan ascended the *gadi*, while yet a little boy. Taking advantage of his minority, several parties in the State began to assert their respective claims to power. There was anarchy and revolt during the next two decades. Ultimately Sherdil Khan, the cousin of the ruler, declared himself Chief of Kalat, and Khudadad Khan repaired to the frontier. The latter however managed to recover his lost territory in 1864. But during his time there was no peace in the State. Revolts continued and party strife was in the ascendant. In 1873 the Commissioner of Sind tried to bring about a reconciliation between the contending parties, but without success. The state of affairs did not long continue ; for Major (afterwards Sir) Robert Sandeman arrived at Kalat in 1875, and displayed considerable skill and vigour in drawing up the Mastung agreement, otherwise known as the Magna Charta of the Brahuii Confederacy. He held a special durbar, at which he announced its contents.

This led to the active intervention of the British as the supreme controlling authority ; and a fresh treaty was concluded in December 1876 between the Khan and the British, by which the British took upon themselves the responsibility of protecting the interests of the State and preserving its internal peace. Within a year after the conclusion of the treaty, Sir Robert Sandeman became the Agent to the Governor-General with Quetta as his head-quarters. Notwithstanding the waywardness of the Khan, Sir Robert always treated him with kindness. In 1877 the Wali of Kalat attended the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi, when he obtained the distinction of G. C. S. I. During the Afghan war of 1875-79, His Highness rendered very valuable aid to the British, who appreciated his loyal service. He voluntarily resigned his powers in favour of his son, the present Chief.

In 1893 His Highness Mir Mahmud Khan II was invested with full administrative powers. The following year he was created a G. C. I. E. In March 1906 the Khan paid his homage in full state to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales at Quetta. His Highness was also present at the last Delhi Coronation Durbar.

H. E. the Viceroy held a Durbar at Quetta on the 5th April 1911, when he spoke as follows :—

In the first place, I am glad to be able to congratulate Your Highness the Khan of Kalat, on the continued progress in the administration of your *niabals* under the able and energetic management of your Political Adviser, Khan Bahadur Kaji Jalaluddin Khan, C. I. E., in whose hands the revenue of these *niabals* have trebled themselves in the last few years. I further congratulate Your Highness on the steady advance in the peace and prosperity of this distant but important District of Makran, under the management of your Najim, Nawab Mehrulla. With the increased resources at your disposal, it is my confident hope that Your Highness will be enabled to take such steps for the improved welfare of your subjects as may be necessary for the fulfilment of that obligation which rests on all chiefs secured from internal and external danger by British protection, to show liberality and enlightenment of administration. It is an obligation which I feel sure Your Highness will loyally carry out.

The State, which is a mountainous country, has an area of 90,000 square miles with a population of 500,000. The soil is generally sandy. In summer the temperature is moderate, and in winter the cold is intense. The majority of the population who are Sunni Mahomedans, live by agriculture, cattle-rearing and fishing. Wheat, jowar, rice and barley are the staple food. Melons, millets, tobacco, lucerne, potatoes and beans are also cultivated. Pomegranate, apricots, almonds, mulberries, vines and apples are commonly grown. No coin is current and cash dealings are practically unknown. All payments are therefore made in kind. The people are very hospitable, and live a simple and contented life. Gloss silk is manufactured in Makran, and coarse cotton cloth is woven in Kachhi. All Brahui women are adepts in needle work, and their embroidery is generally of exquisite workmanship.

The Political Agent decides all inter-tribal differences and also disputes between the tribesmen and the Chief, as the right of arbitration vests in him. The British Government have taken on lease the administration of the Quetta, Nushki and Nasirabad Tahsils. According to the terms of the treaty of 1876, the British Government pay the Khan subsidies amounting to Rs. 1,30,000. The quitrents for the leased areas come up to Rs. 1,51,500. The Revenue of the State is nearly nine lakhs of rupees. The army consists of 300 cavalry, 90 artillery, and 29 old guns. There are two dispensaries in the State, one maintained by the British Government and the other by the Darbar. His Highness the Khan of Kalat is entitled to a salute of nineteen guns. Blessed with peace and tranquillity the State has been making rapid progress, and its untapped resources may be expected to make it still more prosperous in the future.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH
SIR SRI RAMA VARMA, G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E.,
RAJAH OF COCHIN

COCHIN, another Native State on the west coast of India adjoining Travancore, enjoys equally with her sister State all the bounties of nature. It is made up roughly of the hills, the plains, and the seaboards. The seasonal rainfall is not only heavy but fairly regular and uniform in quantity; and the soil is very fertile. The State knows no famine, and the many natural advantages she enjoys, assure her of her material prosperity. The Western Ghauts with its numerous ranges traverse the country. The principal rivers are the Alwaye, the Chalakudi, the Kuruvannur, the Ponnani and the Chittur. The navigable backwaters running parallel to the sea tend to promote the commercial prosperity of this idyllic little State.

The area of the State is 1418 square miles with a population of nearly a million. About 68 per cent. of the people are Hindus and 7 per cent. Mahomedans. The Christians form a little over one-fourth of the total population. The revenue of the State which has been steadily rising in recent years amounts to about forty-five lakhs, while the annual expenditure comes to nearly thirty-four lakhs.

Cochin of whose early history very little is known, is said to have formed, about the middle of the ninth century, part of the ancient kingdom of Kerala under the sway of Cheraman Perumal from whom the present rulers of the State claim their descent. Originally known as Perumpadappunad, Cochin still retains the name in the ruling family which is known as Perumpadappu Svarupam. At the beginning of the sixteenth century the Portuguese who had been permitted to settle within the country, built a fort at Cochin, and carried on their trade with the State. The Rajahs of Cochin sought their aid in their wars with the Zamorin of Calicut. For nearly a century the Portuguese maintained friendly relations with the Rajahs of Cochin. But they were compelled to retire from the town of Cochin in 1663, before the rising power of the Dutch. The Dutch opened friendly negotiations with the State, and gradually obtained several

villages. Through their aid, Prince Virakerala Varma was placed on the *gadi*, and he assumed the title of King of Cochin. He was also presented with a crown which bore the Arms of the Dutch East India Company. But about the middle of the eighteenth century, the Dutch whose power was on the decline, disappeared from the scene of their influence. The Zamorin of Calicut seized this opportunity and invaded the State, but was successfully repulsed through the timely help of the Travancore forces. In return for this aid, Travancore obtained as a reward a portion of Cochin. In 1776 Haider Ali turned his arms against the Rajah of Cochin who was compelled to acknowledge the suzerainty of Haider and pay him an annual tribute. For about fifteen years the State continued to pay tribute to Haider and his son Tippu. But in 1791 the Rajah entered into a treaty with the British by which he became their vassal and agreed to pay them an annual tribute of a lakh of rupees. In 1808 an insurrection broke out, the object of which was to assassinate the British Resident. Both the Ministers of Cochin and Travancore conspired towards this end. The insurrection was however easily put down. This again led to a new treaty being concluded between the Rajah of Cochin and the British, by which the annual tribute payable by the Rajah was enhanced to two and a quarter lakhs. Further the British Government agreed to defend the territories of the Rajah against all his enemies, and the Rajah of Cochin on the other hand agreed not to hold any correspondence with any foreign State or power, and not to engage the services of any European without the previous sanction of the British Government. In 1818 the annual subsidy was reduced to two lakhs. Since then there has been steady improvement in the administration of the State. Many beneficial measures have been introduced, and there have been evident signs of prosperity all over the Province.

In 1862 the Rajah was granted a *sanad* by the then Viceroy, Earl Canning, and was allowed the right of adoption on failure of natural heirs. Like Travancore, Cochin follows the Murumakuthayam law or the law of succession through the female line.

His Highness Sir Rama Varma, the present Ruler, was born in 1852. He ascended the *gadi* after the death of his uncle Sri Vira Kerala Varma in 1895, when he was forty-three years old. In June 1897 the British Government conferred on His Highness the distinction of K. C. S. I. Lord Curzon, the Viceroy, visited the State in 1900. His Excellency in responding to the health proposed by His Highness said :—

His Highness in proposing the health of Lady Curzon and myself, a health which we are very grateful to you for having received so kindly has

contrived in very few words to say a number of apposite things. This no doubt is the secret of dinner-table or luncheon-table oratory, but it is a secret to which few attain. Permit me to assure His Highness that he need not deprecate the character of the welcome that he has accorded us. Like everything else that he superintends himself—and I am glad to think that he superintends most things in Cochin—it has been exceedingly well done and I may profit by this opportunity to say how immensely Lady Curzon and I have enjoyed our short visit here and how grateful we are for the steps that have been taken to entertain us. His Highness has remarked that I am the first Viceroy to visit Cochin. Though my visit apart from its pleasure to myself, is certainly intended as a compliment to the State and its Chief, yet the fact that it is the first may in a sense be regarded as a tribute to the tranquillity which Cochin has so long enjoyed and the loyalty which it has shown for a hundred years to the British Crown. It has not been deemed necessary to cast even a passing eye upon the principality that could so well manage to look after itself. Ladies and gentlemen, since I have been in India I have kept careful watch upon the circumstances and developments of the various Native States, and nowhere have I seen signs of a more intelligent or progressive administration than in Cochin. His Highness during the five years that he has been on the *gadi*, has shown that he is a shrewd hard-working and conscientious ruler who is devoted to the interests of his people. Already, assisted by the capable officials with whom he has surrounded himself, he has made many gratifying improvements in the administration, and there still remain sufficient fields—it is unnecessary for me to point them out—to occupy his energies for many years to come.

In 1903 His Highness attended the Coronation Durbar at Delhi, where he was created a G. C. S. I. The following year His Highness toured in Southern India, and paid a visit to Travancore. In December 1906 His Highness went to Madras and paid his loyal homage to Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. In the beginning of 1911 His Highness's salute was raised from seventeen to nineteen guns. At the Delhi Coronation Durbar held in December 1911, the Maharajah obtained the distinction of G. C. I. E. During his reign the State has advanced not a little, and in all the recent administrative reforms His Highness has been most ably assisted by his present talented Dewan, Mr. A. R. Banerjee whose statesmanship and administrative skill have been known to be of the highest order. Among the numerous measures of reform may be mentioned the complete re-organisation of the account system, the extension at the cost of the Durbar of the railway to the capital, the scientific working of the forest, the construction of a forest tramway, the improvement of excise administration, the completion of the revenue settlement, the separation of the revenue and magisterial functions, the establishment of the Public Health department, the re-organi-

sation of the Devasvam and the Agricultural departments, and improvement of the fisheries, the industrial survey of the State, the extension of industrial and technical education, and the introduction of a system of Municipal administration in towns.

The State has been fortunate in the selection of its Dewans or Ministers. It has had a succession of capable and efficient Ministers from Dewan Nanjappayya, and this has contributed not a little to its progress in all directions. He directed his attention to the improvement of the judicial administration of the State, and introduced vaccination and a new Abkari system. The first systematic survey and settlement of wet lands was also begun in his time.

Dewan Venkatasubbayya was no less active and zealous in raising the standard of administration. He proved himself a highly capable officer. During his time great changes were introduced in several departments of the State. The judicial administration was brought into line with that of the British Government. The stamp duty was introduced. A re-survey and settlement of land was made. Experimental gardens were opened for the benefit chiefly of the ryot population. Coffee plantations were encouraged. Modern methods were employed in the improvement of agriculture. Vernacular schools were re-organised. An English school was established at Trichur, and another at Mattancheri. Other minor reforms such as the re-organisation of the Dewan's office, were also introduced.

With Dewan Sankara Wariyar began the modern administration of the State. He was a statesman of conspicuous abilities. His varied activities were seen in the proper regulation of finance, the execution of useful public works, the expansion of trade, the improvement of agriculture, and the suppression of grave crimes. Transit duties were abolished and increased facilities were given to the growth of trade. The inland customs were reduced. An English school, which has since developed into the present college, was founded at Ernakulam, as also a charity Hospital which is now the General Hospital of Cochin. Above all, successful attempts were made to abolish serfdom and to improve the condition of the labouring classes.

The regime of Dewan Sankara Menon was characterised by progress and prosperity in all irections. Further improvements were made in judicial administration. Highly qualified and competent men were chosen as judges. A beginning was made in the codification of certain customary laws. Munsiffs' courts were established at select centres. Eleven Regulations were brought into line with those of British India. The financial condition of the State was considerably improved. The

land revenue increased by about 35 per cent. The expenditure was well regulated, so that a great saving was effected, and about sixteen lakhs of rupees were invested in Government securities. The extension of irrigation, the construction of public works, the spread of education, and the establishment of new hospitals and dispensaries, have all largely contributed to the moral and material progress of the State. In recognition of his meritorious services, the British Government made the Dewan a Companion of the Star of India.

During his brother Govinda Menon's tenure of office, the system of Police was re-organised on modern lines, the Penal and Criminal Procedure Codes were introduced, the Rajah's court of appeal was established, the Export duty on pepper was abolished, and English schools for girls were opened. The introduction of the grant-in-aid system for private schools, and the extension of the Chittur irrigation scheme were other beneficial measures of reform. The most important measure was the satisfactory settlement of the long standing boundary dispute between Travancore and Cochin.

There are several remains of great antiquarian interest. The ruins of the Dutch Fort at Cranganur, the rock-cut caves, and the famous old temples of the Vadakunnathan shrine in Trichur and the Tiruvanchikulam temple near Cranganur, the Jewish synagogue at Mattancheri, with a clock tower nearly three hundred years old, and the copper plate charters of the Jews, are objects of archaeological importance.

Of the total Christian population 1,96,690 are natives. The Catholic and Syrian churches claim numerous adherents. The Jews in the State number 1,173. Malayalam, spoken by about 88 per cent. and Tamil, by about 7 per cent. are the chief languages. There are numerous castes, of whom the Tiyans or the toddy-drawing Iluvans and the Nayars constitute the largest number. They number 1,84,504 and 1,11,837 respectively. In olden times the Nayars were renowned for their military valour. They have now largely taken to agriculture and other peaceful pursuits in life. The Marumakkuthayam Law of Inheritance is prevalent among them by which the succession of legal heirs runs through the female line. Marriage is considered a social union between the husband the wife, and can be dissolved at the will of either party. The Nambudris who are the ancient Brahmins of Malabar are very orthodox and conservative and are respected most by the people. They exercise no small influence on the Hindu community. They too have certain peculiar marriage customs. Only their eldest son marries; the others have *sambandams* in Nair families.

Rice, the staple food of the country, is extensively grown in about fifty varieties. Next in importance comes the cocoanut palm, which

flourishes best in the sandy tracts. The only minerals worked are granite, laterite, and limestone. The forests with an area of 605 square miles, claim nearly one half of the State, and yield valuable timber. Coffee and cardamoms are some of the minor products. Irrigation has done much to improve the condition of the ryot. The State railway, which is managed by the South Indian Railway, runs between Shoranur and Ernakulam.

For administrative purposes the State is divided into the Northern and Southern divisions. The headquarters are Trichur and Ernakulam respectively. The administration of the State is carried on by the Rajah, assisted by the Dewan and the Law Committee. The Dewan is the Chief Minister and head of the administration. Each of the divisions is under the control of a Peshkar who exercises the power of a District Magistrate. The Law Committee consists of a President and seven members. All regulations are first submitted to the Dewan for his revision and are then forwarded through the British Resident to the Government of Madras for approval. In some cases bills are prepared independent of the Law Committee. On approval the bills are formally resubmitted to the Rajah for his assent, and they then become law. In emergent cases the Rajah issues proclamations in his own name which have the force of law. All State enactments are known as regulations. The Cranganur taluk is under a Chief who pays an annual tribute to the Rajah of Cochin.

Justice is efficiently administered by a Chief Court consisting of three judges, two District Courts, and six Munsiffs' Courts. The Chief Court also controls the administration of criminal justice with two Sessions Courts, two District Magistrates with first class powers, and ten second or third class Magistrates under it. The Chief Court is the supreme judicial tribunal in all matters civil and criminal. But sentences of death or of imprisonment for life should receive the confirmation of the Rajah. The British Resident is a justice of the peace, and exercises the powers of a District Magistrate and Sessions Judge. An appeal from his decisions lies to the Madras High Court.

The Cochin Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition is annually held for the benefit chiefly of the ryot population. The Durbar pays special attention to the steady improvement of agriculture. In rural tracts agricultural associations have been doing much useful work.

The educational progress of the State is indeed praiseworthy. In Southern India, Cochin takes the lead in educational matters next to Madras. 13·4 per cent. of the population are able to read and write. There are 102 sircar schools with 17,265 pupils nearly half of whom are girls, 216 aided schools with 18,852 pupils and 697 unaided schools with 15,246 pupils. Of the total number of pupils under instruction, in

over one thousand institutions, about 55 per cent. are Hindus, 40 per cent. Christians and 5 per cent. Mahomedans. Besides a second grade college at Ernakulam, there are fourteen high schools and over one thousand primary schools. Free education is provided in all elementary schools. Thirteen night schools, all but one maintained by the State, exist chiefly for the benefit of the working classes. In the Sircar training school, there is a section for lady teachers. Female education is making rapid progress. There are altogether fifty-three girls' schools of which thirty-three belong to the Sirkar and twenty are aided institutions. There are also two high schools for girls. The total number of girls under instruction is 15,139. Among the subjects taught, music and needlework claim special attention. The Palace Girls' School, opened in 1885, is for the benefit of the girls of the ruling family. Recently new measures have been adopted for promoting technical and industrial education.

The State troops consist of 309 Infantry, 16 Cavalry, and 4 guns. The Nair Brigade (including the infantry and the artillery) has about two dozen officers and 250 men. The State band has a staff of twenty men. The police force is under the control of a Superintendent who is also the Commandant of the Nair Brigade, and consists of 63 officers and about 500 men. The central jail is at Ernakulam. There are besides nine subsidiary jails in the Province. Weaving, oil-extracting and the manufacture of coir-fibre are the principal jail industries.

There are eleven hospitals, nine dispensaries, two asylums, and one veterinary hospital. The Edward Memorial Fund has assumed the shape of the Edward Maternity Hospital towards which the Durbar gave a munificent grant of Rs. 20,000 and the public contributed about Rs. 12,000. The State has a postal system of its own, and has forty-three anchal (post) offices and eighty-four letter boxes.

Under His Highness's progressive rule the State has prospered and his subjects enjoy peace and contentment. Cochin bids fair to be a Model State at no distant date.



H. H. THE MAHARAJAH NEPAL

HONORARY MAJOR-GENERAL HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SIR CHANDRA SHUM SHERE JUNG BAHADUR RANA G. C. B., G. C. S. I., G. C. V. O., D. C. L., F. R. G. S., etc., etc., PRIME MINISTER AND MARSHAL OF NEPAL

Though Nepal is an independent kingdom, and has, therefore, no place in a book wholly devoted to the Ruling Chiefs and other celebrities of British India, its Prime Minister, the *de facto* ruler of that ancient and historic country on the southern flank of the Himalayas, has been the recipient of such signal marks of friendship and honour from His Majesty the King-Emperor in person and from the British Government, and is so much an Indian at heart and in sympathies, with noble Rajput blood in his veins, that no work on Indian worthies would be complete that did not include at least a short account of his remarkable personality and of the part played by him in recent times. It is a curious instance in the annals of eastern States that the Kings of Nepal from about the beginning of the last century should have entrusted the active administration of the State to their Prime Ministers. From the time of the great Bhim Sen Thappa, the Prime Minister, in whose hands Ran Bahadur Sah, the King of Nepal, at the time of his death, left the interests of his child and those of his family, the office of Prime Minister has more or less carried with it the real rulership of the State; and the holders of the office have justified the trust reposed in them, by their devotion and loyalty to the interests of the Royal House no less than by their skill in the administration of the kingdom.

When Ran Bahadur Sah's successor, Girvana Yudha Bikram, died young in 1816, his infant son, Rajendra Bikram Sah, was placed on the throne, General Bhim Sen Thappa continuing as Minister; and in the latter were, in consequence, united all the prerogatives of the Crown and the responsibilities of the Minister. As in the case of the British constitution where the royal prerogatives are, to a large extent, exercised by the ministry in power, these powers and responsibilities were continued to his successors.

The Minister is generally styled Maharajah, while the King himself is called Maharajah Dhirajah. To-day all departments in Nepal are under

the control of the Minister, who has a Council to assist him, its members being of His Highness's own selection. The Minister receives all communications concerning political, fiscal and judicial matters, and disposes of them according to their merits without consulting the King or the Council. Public money is spent only under his orders. It is the Minister that confers all appointments, civil or military, and it is he that hears all complaints regarding public matters.

Bhim Sen Thappa died in 1839, and was succeeded four years later by his nephew, Matabar Singh. On the assassination of the latter in 1846, his nephew, Jung Bahadur, became Prime Minister, and continued in office till his death in 1877. In 1847 Rajendra Bikram Sah was forced to abdicate in favour of his son, Surendra Bikram Sah. At the outset of his career Jung Bahadur had to contend against many court intrigues and internal quarrels, but by his tact, skill and great will-power, he was very soon able to overcome them all; so much so that in 1850 he was in a position to undertake a European tour, being the first great Indian ruler to do so. This visit to Europe evidently did him great good; for, when the Mutiny broke out in 1857, in spite of overtures made to him by rebels, he was able to see things in their proper perspective and judge of the true interests of the country. He rightly joined the British and, at the head of an army 8,000 strong, helped them both at Gorakhpore and Lucknow. His timely service secured for the Nepal Durbar the lasting friendship of the British Government. When the Mutiny was quelled and order was restored, the services of Maharajah Jung Bahadur were handsomely recognised. The Nepal army was paid for the time it was in service, and liberal donations were given to the relations of those that had died in battle. On the Prime Minister himself was conferred the unique honour of G. C. B. In 1860 a fresh treaty was concluded with the Nepal Durbar, by which a tract of country at the foot of the Himalayas, ceded to the British in 1816, was restored to Nepal. The Prime Minister enjoyed a personal salute of nineteen guns, and was made a G. C. S. I. in 1873.

In 1876 when His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales—afterwards His Majesty the King-Emperor Edward VII—visited India, he camped on the banks of the Sarda, near Nepal. A most cordial and enthusiastic welcome was accorded to the Royal visitor by Maharajah Jung Bahadur and the people of Nepal. Presents were exchanged, and durbars and banquets were held on a scale befitting the great occasion. Past acts of kindness and help were mutually acknowledged amidst festive rejoicings. The Prime Minister referred to the kindness he had experienced when he visited England in 1850, and expressed the hope that he might be able to repeat the visit. But this hope was not realised as a year later the great Jung Bahadur was called to

his rest amidst the sincere mourning of his subjects. His brother, Ranodip Singh, who was Commander-in-Chief, succeeded him according to Jung Bahadur's arrangement, limiting the succession to the Premiership to the families of himself and his brothers. Surendra Bikram Sah died in 1881 and was succeeded by his grandson, Prithvi Bir Bikram Sah. In 1885 a *coup d'etat* took place, and the Minister's nephew, Bir Shum Shere Jung, the son of Dhir Shum Shere, succeeded Ranodip Singh who was assassinated. He continued to be Prime Minister till his death in 1901.

Under Maharajah Bir Shum Shere Jung, G.C.S.I., the country enjoyed all the advantages of an efficient and sympathetic administration. Many improvements were effected, not the least of them being the successful working out of a scheme of water-supply for the towns of Khatmandu and Bhatgaon. The introduction of a good drainage scheme went far to improve sanitation. Many schools and hospitals were opened. Fond of architecture, he erected a magnificent palace for himself to live in. His relationship with the British Government was always of a most friendly nature. He took severe measures to put down dacoity. Many boundary disputes with the British were tactfully and amicably settled, and he made himself very useful in raising a Gurkha regiment for the British Indian Army. In recognition of his friendly services, the distinction of G. C. S. I. was conferred on him. In 1892 Lord and Lady Roberts paid a visit to Nepal, where they enjoyed the hospitality of the Minister. They expressed themselves immensely pleased with everything they saw. The fine parade ground at Khatmandu—a monument of the industry and military ardour of the Nepalese—elicited His Lordship's special admiration. The eighteen thousand troops which were drawn up in review, in His Lordship's expert estimation, did not suffer in comparison with the Gurkha regiments in the British Indian Army. H. H. the present Prime Minister was then the Commander-in-Chief, whom His Lordship described as a red-hot soldier. He had so great an admiration for the British that he assured His Lordship that he had 40,000 good soldiers at his back to march against the Russians if they should come. The period of administration of Bir Shum Shere Jung was on the whole one of peace, prosperity and contentment to the people. He was succeeded for a few months by his brother, Maharajah Deb Shum Shere Jung Bahadur Rana, after whom another brother of his, the present Prime Minister, was called to the helm of Government.

Maharajah Chandra Shum Shere Jung Bahadur Rana was born on the 8th July 1863. "The child is the father of the man," and, even as a boy, he was the most remarkable among his brothers; so much so that, of all the seventeen sons of General Dhir Shum Shere, the Maharajah was the only one who went down to the Calcutta University and came out successful in its examinations. The then Vice-Chancellor of the University referred to him

in his Convocation address of 1884 in the following terms :—"In the class list for the Entrance Examination appears the name of a young gentleman who holds a high military command in the army of Nepal and who has shown on this occasion that he can handle the pen not less efficiently than the sword." He was contemplating further study at the University, but affairs in Nepal demanded his presence there, certain momentous political issues having been then at stake. His father's death, which took place in the same year, precipitated the trend of affairs which resulted in the *coup d'etat* of 1885, whereby his eldest brother, Bir Shum Shere, was raised to the Premiership. The Maharajah, who had begun his military career with a Colonelcy, became a Major-General in 1882, and his promotions followed rapidly. In 1885 he was General commanding the Southern Army, and two years later he was raised to the Eastern Command. Subsequently, in the same year, he was further promoted to the rank of the Senior Commanding General which, as Lord Roberts shrewdly perceived, implied that he was virtually the Commander-in-Chief of the Nepalese Army. In this capacity he trained the Nepal soldiery vigorously and translated for them several English military books into Parbatia. Besides this military command, he held the Directorship of the Foreign Office and that of Public Instruction, and both departments bore the impress of his remarkable talents. On the death of Bir Shum Shere, in March 1901, he was made Commander-in-Chief of the Nepalese Army. But affairs in Nepal were again unsatisfactory under Maharajah Deb Shum Shere. A revolution followed, which, to the credit of the present Prime Minister, was bloodless for the first time in the annals of Nepal. Maharajah Chandra Shum Shere was extremely popular with all classes, and his assumption of the post of Prime Minister and Marshal on the 26th June 1901, was hailed with acclamation as the dawn of a new era of prosperity and "an ampler day". His Highness had not long been in office when he received from the Emperor of China the rare distinction of *Thong-Lin-Pimma-Ko-Kang-Wang-Sian.*

Early in 1902 when the King or Maharajah Dhirajah of Nepal and the Amir of Afghanistan received invitations from Lord Curzon to attend the Delhi Durbar of 1903, the Maharajah Dhirajah replied to the Viceroy as follows:—"As I cannot come, my Prime Minister and Marshal, Maharajah Chandra Shum Shere Jung Bahadur Rana, Thong-Lin-Pimma-Ko-Kang-Wang-Sian, whom I consider my other self, will wait upon Your Excellency at the Durbar. I hope that, with your usual kindness and favour and considering the firm friendship which exists between the two Governments, Your Excellency will show him the honour and consideration due to his high position." Thus the Maharajah went to Delhi to represent the Maharajah Dhirajah and viewed the Delhi Durbar from the foreign representatives' block.

In 1904 the Maharajah paid a special visit to Lord Curzon in Calcutta; and, when the Tibet Mission was proceeding, His Highness issued the famous letter of advice to the Tibetan authorities, and his attitude towards the British Government during this critical time was greatly appreciated. In 1905 he received the distinction of G. C. S. I. In the following year Lord Kitchener went on a visit to Khatmandu and announced to the Maharajah that the King-Emperor had been pleased to confer on him the rank of an Honorary Major-General in the British Army and the Honorary Colonelship of the 4th Gurkha Rifles. Lord Kitchener was then created an Honorary General in the Nepalese Army. This exchange of military honours pleased the Nepalese very much. In 1907 the Maharajah went down to Calcutta on a visit to Lord Minto, and, in April 1908, he with his suite sailed for England. Major J. Manners-Smith, V. C., C. I. E., and Lieut. Macleod Wylie of the 4th Gurkhas, were attached to His Highness's party. On his voyage he touched at Malta, where H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, in his capacity of High Commissioner, accorded to him a right royal welcome. London was reached on the 9th of May. His Majesty King Edward VII entertained his distinguished guest with all royal hospitality. His Highness was accommodated in Mortimer House, and carriages and servants from Buckingham Palace were placed at his disposal. On the 11th of May King Edward received the great visitor in state. A cordial welcome was extended to him, and a special guard of honour with the band and colours of the Coldstream Guards was drawn up in his honour, and greatly to the delight of the visitors, the band struck up the Maharajah's Nepalese Anthem. H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, the present King-Emperor, was then visited at Marlborough House. The Maharajah's personality made a marked impression on English society, and he became the lion of the season. King Edward made it a point to invite him to every important social and military function. His Majesty included him in the Royal cortege, and at the Naval and Military Tournament was seen in the Royal box with the Maharajah on the right and Queen Alexandra on the left. The Maharajah visited the many interesting and historic places in London, and it so chanced that on his visit to the Houses of Parliament, Sir William Bull asked the Under-Secretary of State for India whether the visit of the Prime Minister of Nepal to England and other parts of Europe was by official invitation, whether he was to be treated as a state guest, and, if so, whether the expenses of his hospitality would be defrayed from the British Exchequer or from Indian funds. After answering the first two questions in the affirmative, Mr. Buchanan said that the cost of the entertainment of the Prime Minister of Nepal as a state guest would be borne by the British Exchequer.

On the 28th of May the Maharajah was entertained on board H. M. S.

King Edward VII by Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, and subsequently a naval review was held in His Highness's honour; and as he passed down the line of ships composing a fleet of about forty warships, each vessel saluted him in turn. He was also accorded military honours on board the French warship *Leon Gambetta*, on which the French President crossed over to England. A special meeting was arranged by King Edward VII between the French President and the Maharajah. On the 9th of June a field day was held at Aldershot in His Highness's honour, followed by a review of about 12,000 horse and foot and 81 guns. On the 19th of June he was entertained by the special command of the King on board the first ship of the British fleet, H. M. S. *Dreadnought*, and shown the very latest methods of naval warfare, including target practice, torpedo discharges, and submarines. After witnessing this interesting naval manœuvre, His Highness returned escorted by a flotilla of destroyers. Many of the Cabinet Ministers met him on board, while the Union Jack and the Nepalese flag were crossed as a symbol of the alliance.

On the 24th of June the University of Oxford conferred on the Maharajah *honoris causa* the degree of Doctor of Civil Laws.

In July His Highness toured in the North, proceeding to Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Sheffield, where the Lords Provost and the Lord Mayor accorded him public receptions. Returning to London again on the 9th, he received the announcement that the King had been pleased to confer on him the high distinction of an Honorary G. C. B. On the 13th he was invited to the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games, where His late Majesty showed him special honour by giving him precedence over the Diplomatic Corps and including him in the party of the royal guests, among whom were the Crown Princes and Princesses of Sweden and Greece, and to whom His Highness was introduced by the Duke of Connaught, the father-in-law of the Crown Prince of Sweden. It was then time for H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, now King-Emperor, to go to Quebec for the tercentenary celebrations; and before he started for Canada, His Royal Highness held an evening party in His Highness's honour at Marlborough House. To this distinguished gathering His Royal Highness with his characteristic thoughtfulness invited His Highness's friends who were then in England. On the 21st of July King Edward held a special investiture in the Throne Room at Buckingham Palace and decorated the Maharajah with the riband and badge of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath. As a signal mark of his Majesty's favour, the star of the G. C. B. was set in diamonds. After the ceremony, His Highness took leave of the King and Queen prior to his departure. On the 22nd of July he left London for an informal tour on the Continent. A distinguished gathering saw him off at the Victoria Station, and on the same day the

Times published the Maharajah's message of farewell to the British nation, which ran as follows :—

" I have thoroughly enjoyed my visits—that I was sure I should do, for your country and mine are sworn allies.

" Remember, thousands of my people are in your Indian Army ; we have fought side by side on many occasions ; and my own army is ready to render you help again, if it should ever be needed. You can, therefore, understand what a great pleasure it has given me to see for the first time the country with which mine has been so long connected by these ties of friendship.

" But there has been something more, for which I was not prepared, and which I have felt very deeply—that is, the great kindliness and sympathy which have been so universally extended to me and to my staff by all whom we have met; by Their Most Gracious Majesties the King and Queen, by Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, by the officials of the India Office, and by the people of Great Britain.

"Wherever we have gone, we have found every one anxious to make us feel we were friends. I have been able to-day to personally thank Their Majesties the King and Queen, and I want to, and do, thank the British people for all their kindness and friendship. I return to my country with most pleasant recollections.

" Yours is a great country. I have seen with admiration your splendid Fleet and am proud that it is the Fleet of our ally ; but to me the greatness of your country is best seen in the good it has done to our great neighbour, India, in the peace, security of life and property, justice, and numerous other benefits it has given to that country.

" So I take my leave, with the wish that God may prosper the people of this country and their work, and by again saying how much I and my people have enjoyed the kind hospitality which has been so freely extended to us and for which we are all so thankful".

The *Times* and all the English newspapers raised a chorus of approval and appreciation of the message, and the general impression left by the visit may be summed up in the words of the *Daily Telegraph* :—

"During the last few years this country has been visited by an unexampled succession of distinguished foreign personages, but none of them has been more interesting, and few more important, than the Prime Minister of Nepal."

After passing through France, Switzerland, and Italy, His Highness embarked at Naples on the 2nd of August. On the voyage home he touched at Rameswaram for the *Prayaschittam* ceremony. He had specially chartered the S. S. *City of Vienna* for the exclusive use of himself and party for both the outward and homeward journeys. His own cooks travelled with him, and all the arrangements for food and water were made in strict conformity with orthodox Hindu requirements. King Edward respected the religious scruples of his guest ; and, at the great garden party which His Majesty held at Windsor, a special tent was set apart, where only fresh fruits were kept and nobody except those of His Highness's caste was

allowed to go in. On the 27th of August the Maharajah returned to Khatmandu, and on the 31st a grand Durbar, presided over by the Maharajah Dhirajah, was held in honour of his return. Since his return from England, the Maharajah's health was not all that could be desired, and it was only very recently that he was restored to his normal health.

Towards the close of 1910, it was announced that Their Majesties King George and Queen Mary would grace the next Delhi Durbar with their presence. No sooner did the Maharajah hear this announcement than he sent a most cordial invitation to the King-Emperor for a shoot in the Terai. It was arranged that His Majesty should visit Nepal when he was in India in 1906, and preparations were made on a grand scale, but as cholera broke out among the camp-followers, the shoot was abandoned to the great disappointment of His Highness. In 1911 when His Majesty accepted the Maharajah's invitation, every Nepalese looked forward to the Royal visit as a unique event. Unluckily, however, the Maharajah Dhirajah of Nepal died on the 11th of December, and was succeeded by his only son and heir, Tribhubana Bir Bikrum Sah; but before he passed away, the Nepalese Sovereign expressed his earnest wish that nothing, not even his demise, should interfere with the shoot, and the Prime Minister hoped earnestly that His Majesty would carry out his intention of visiting Nepal, adding that it would be a great disappointment to his people as well as to himself if Nepal were deprived for the second time of the honour of receiving His Majesty. In accordance with the wishes of the Nepalese Government and people, His Imperial Majesty decided to fulfil the engagement inasmuch as the period of mourning was over. Accordingly, the King-Emperor arrived at Bikna Thori on the 18th of December and was received by the Maharajah. The shoot lasted till the 28th of that month, during which time His Majesty and party bagged thirty-nine tigers, eighteen rhinoceroses and four bears. Two shooting camps had been prepared, one at Sukivar and another at Kasra, to both of which a motor track led a train of motor cars to and from the railway station. So alike were these two camps equipped as regards the shooting box, tents, electric lights, furniture, water supply, etc., that it was hard to distinguish one from the other. Between these two camps King George divided the period of his stay. Great was the gathering of elephants and grand was the *shikar*. It was a glorious success. His Majesty spent a most pleasant Christmas Day in Nepal. Presents were exchanged, and the King-Emperor conferred on the Maharajah the distinction of G.C.V.O., and on the Commander-in-Chief, General Bhim Shum Shere Jung Bahadur Rana, that of K.C.V.O. The special Christmas card—a photograph of His Majesty and His Highness shaking hands—presented by His Majesty symbolising the friendship between the two Rulers and their Governments, was greatly



THE MAHARAJAH DIRECTING THE SHIKAR



THE KING-EMPEROR & THE MAHARAJAH IN THE CENTRAL HOWDAH.



THE KING-EMPEROR & THE MAHARAJAH VIEWING A BAG OF THREE TIGERS



THE MAHARAJAH LEADING THE SHIKAR PARTY



THE KING-EMPEROR & THE MAHARAJAH
STANDING BY ONE OF THE BIGGEST TIGERS SHOT DURING THE SHOOT



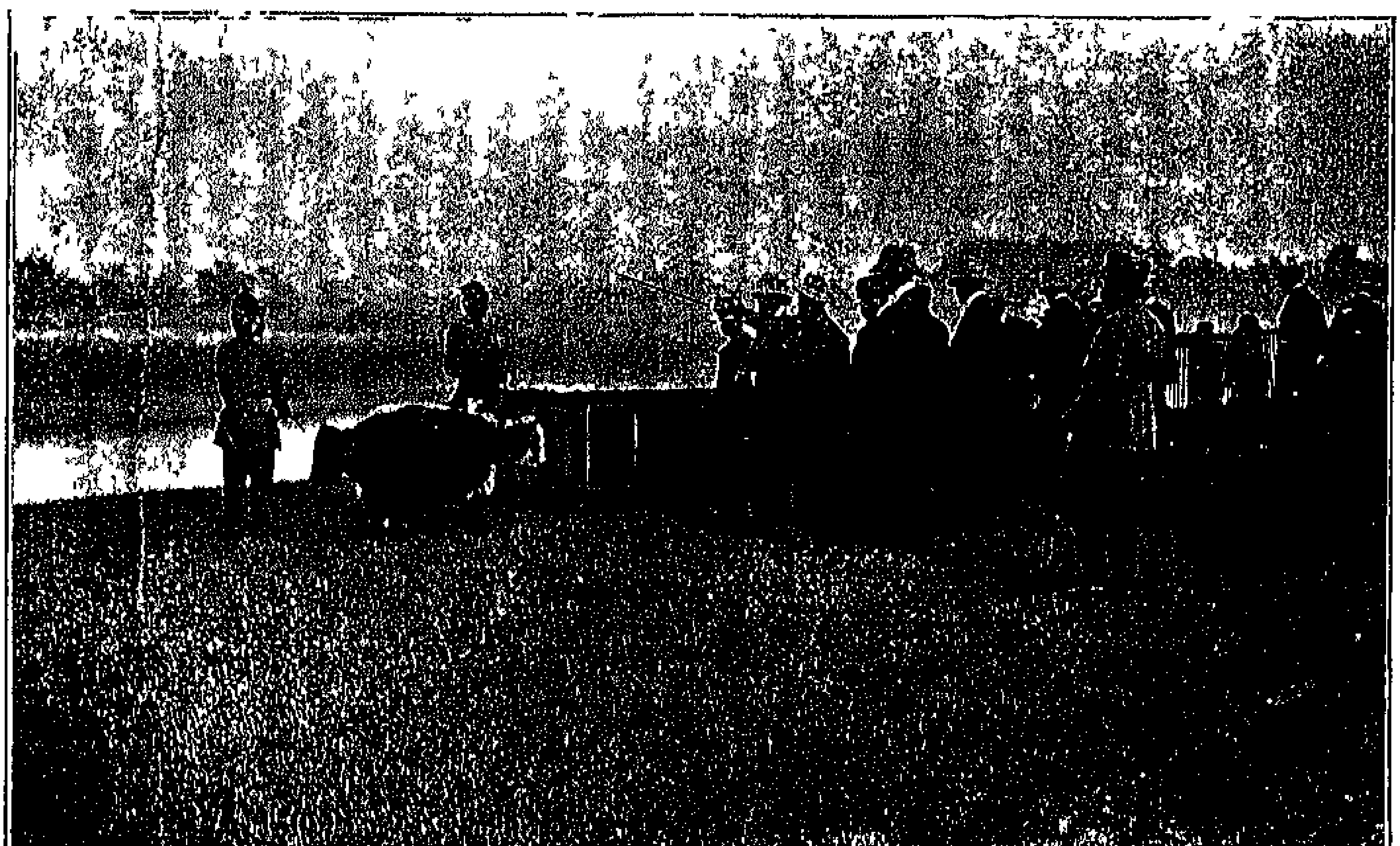
FOUR TIGERS & ONE BEAR
THE KING-EMPEROR, THE MAHARAJAH, & THE NEPALESE GENERALS & OFFICERS



THE KING-EMPEROR'S SHOOT IN NEPAL
A DAY'S BAG



H. I M THE KING-EMPEROR, H H, THE MAHARAJAH & STAFFS



THE MAHARAJAH PRESENTING THE COLLECTION OF NEPALESE ANIMALS TO THE KING-EMPEROR

admired by the Nepalese. This visit of the King-Emperor has been much appreciated by the people of Nepal as a great mark of friendship, and His Majesty on his return wired to His Highness, "Dear Maharajah, I know I can always count upon you and your people as my truest friends."

The Maharajah's dignified figure was missed by his admirers at the Delhi Durbar of 1911. Only Feudatories and subjects within the Indian Dominions were summoned, and so no invitation was sent to the Nepal Durbar. But the Maharajah was not forgotten; a personal salute of nineteen guns was granted to him.

In his own quiet but determined manner the Maharajah has done not a little for the internal administration of Nepal. In the course of a speech which he delivered on a public occasion some years back, he gave utterance to the following significant words:—"Of course it will take time, I am afraid, a very long time, for the people of this country to look kindly on reform or innovations, but perseverance and tact are sure to carry the day in the long run. I admit that our sequestered lives and our patriotic pride have many features to recommend them. They help to produce those warriors of whom we are so proud." Herein the Maharajah struck the keynote of the character of his administration; and the reforms which he has introduced have been neither ill-advised nor precipitous, but have been slowly matured and gradually evolved according to the needs of the situation.

In the military department he has introduced several reforms which have immensely added to the efficiency of the army in Nepal. A few of these measures are increase in the pay of soldiers, equipment with modern weapons, the grant of decent uniforms at nominal rates, and the introduction of the system of regular target practice. In financial matters also quite a large number of beneficent changes have been made during his regime. He has accomplished what was once thought to be an impossible task—the proper control of finance. He has now succeeded in placing this department on a sound basis. It has been effected by causing retrenchments under various heads of expenditure and by the introduction of a system of vigilant supervision. Although several unjust taxes and cesses have been abolished, yet an increase in revenue has resulted without resorting to coercion or the imposition of fresh taxes. The surplus revenue thus obtained is kept in the Treasury as a sort of Reserve Fund. The Maharajah has also instituted a system of land survey, together with experimental reclamation of lands. In the sphere of public works huge strides have been made. To improve irrigation canals have been constructed. Further, roads have been metalled and bridges put up; and the city has been supplied with pure water from the Patan Water-Works. Several hospitals have been founded at important centres; and the capital has been lit by electricty. This facility for electric

installations promises a good future for industrial expansion also. His Highness deals severely with malpractices of every kind, and a very efficient check is maintained to prevent official corruption and high-handedness. A preliminary examination has been inaugurated for admission to the civil service. A much healthier tone has been infused into the administration of law. The Maharajah, who is the highest appellate authority in the land, daily grants personal audience to suitors who throng to him for justice. The decisions of His Highness are so judicious and discriminating that they have won for him the reputation of being a just and impartial ruler. He visits with heavy penalty any official who attempts to impede the course of justice, or who strives to bring about its miscarriage. Some reforms have also been introduced in prison administration, and capital punishment has been almost totally abolished, with the interesting result that there is a marked decrease in the crimes which were formerly punished with death. For the alleviation of the sufferings of the poor and the infirm, poorhouses have been established, and a substantial portion of the gifts, which formerly went to the wealthy priests, is now devoted to the feeding and accommodation of the poor. Moreover, a law has been enacted that no landlord shall henceforth be able to eject at will a tenant from his holding or even to enhance the rent, so long as he duly pays the agreed amount. In the interests of humanity, cruelty to animals has been forbidden, and the method of slaughter at sacrifices has been considerably modified. The Maharajah, both by word and deed, alike by his own example and by the doctrines which he inculcates, condemns emphatically all tendency to luxury and to undue extravagance at social functions. He encourages monogamy and discourages the use of intoxicants, and in these matters the people have learnt a lesson from the example of their ruler. Statutory restrictions have been imposed on the free use of opium, only those under medical advice being allowed to resort to it. During his rule education has made marked advance, and the Maharajah has been instrumental in sending students abroad, notably to Japan. Many modern sanitary measures have been adopted at the capital, and elaborate precautions are taken to guard against famine. The chief of the famine relief measures is the stocking of corn against drought. From the above, which is but a short resume of the administration of Nepal under the Maharajah, we can see what a glorious record of work accomplished lies to the credit of this enlightened ruler, who has increased the efficiency of Government in every department. Such, in brief outline, is the character and work of the Father of Modern Nepal, who is, at present, one of the most celebrated personages in Asia.

His Highness the Maharajah is blessed with a large family of talented sons, all of whom hold important places in the Nepal Army. The



GENERAL MOHUN SHUM SHERE JUNG BAHADUR RANA



LIEUTENANT-GENERAL
BABER SHUM SHERE JUNG BAHADUR RANA



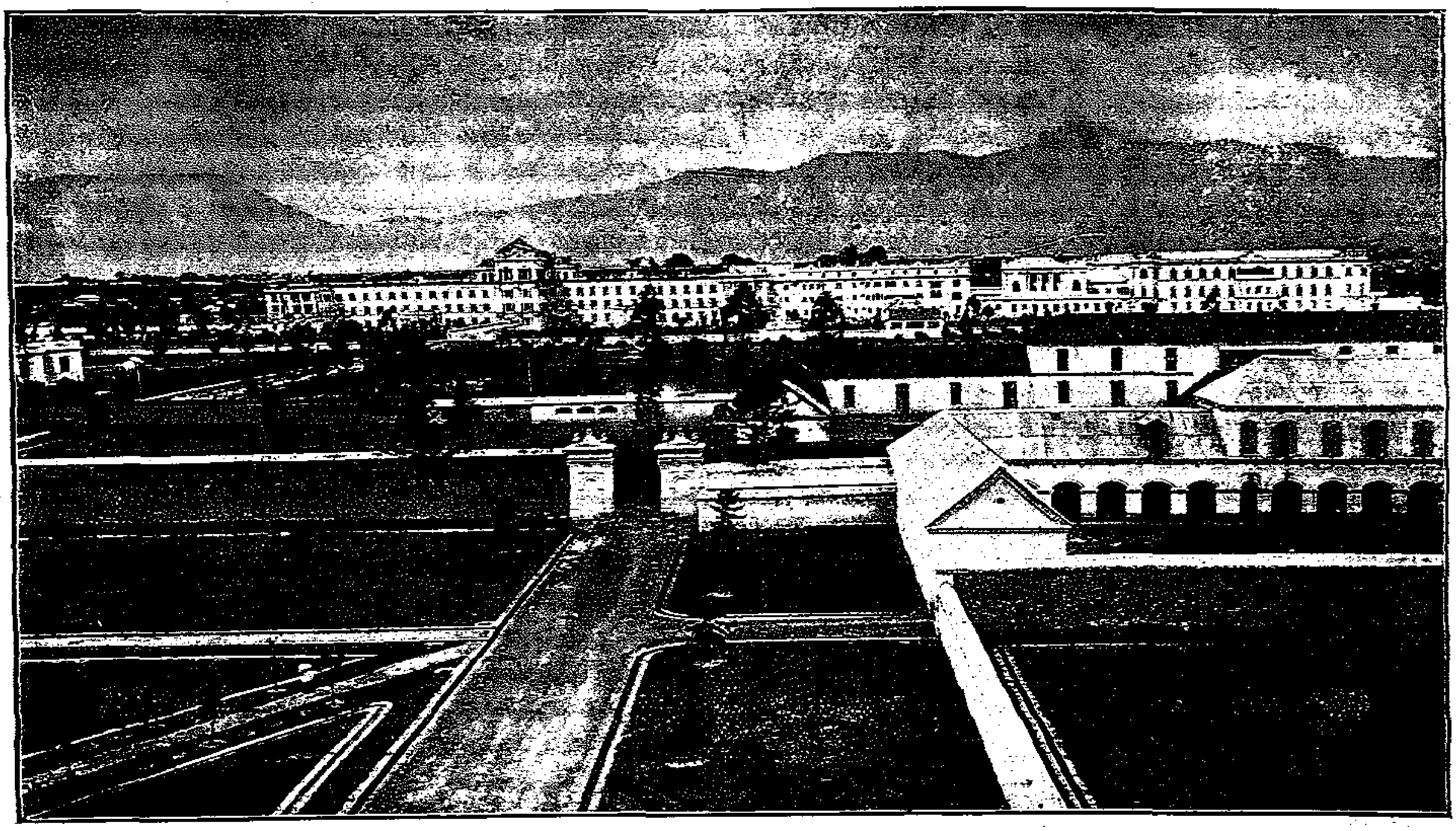
LIEUTENANT-GENERAL
KAISER SHUM SHERE JUNG BAHADUR RANA



MAJOR-GENERAL
SINGHA SHUM SHERE JUNG BAHADUR RANA



MAJOR-GENERAL
KRISHNA SHUM SHERE JUNG BAHADUR RANA



SINGHA DURBAR—RESIDENCE OF H. H. THE MAHARAJAH

eldest, Mohun Shum Shere Jung Bahadur Rana, born on the 26th December 1885, is a General of the Nepal Army; the second, Baber Shum Shere Jung Bahadur Rana, son by Her late Highness the Bada Maharani Chandra Loka Vakta Lakhmi Debi, born in 1888, holds the rank of a Lieutenant-General, and is also the Inspector-General of Police. He was present at the Delhi Coronation Durbar of 1913, with his father, and travelled through Europe in 1908. He visited Calcutta in 1911 on an important diplomatic mission in behalf of his State. As the *Telegraph*, dated 4th February 1911, observed:—" He is a young promising officer and has given earnest of his future greatness. The fact that he has been entrusted with an important diplomatic mission by his Government justifies our remark. Such a man is surely an ornament to the Government which he serves." The third son, Kaiser Shum Shere Jung Bahadur Rana, born on the 8th January 1892, is a Lieutenant-General; the fourth son, Singha Shum Shere Jung Bahadur Rana, born on the 23rd December 1893, who married the second Princess of Nepal in 1906, is a Major-General; and the fifth, Krishna Shum Shere Jung Bahadur Rana, born in 1900, has married the third Princess of Nepal, and holds the rank of a Major-General.

The army of Nepal is roughly estimated at about 45,000 men including 2,500 artillery. Each citizen serves in the army for at least three years, after which service is optional. Of course in times of emergency, every citizen is expected to take the field. The Commander-in-Chief of the army is the next brother of the Minister, and other important offices are held by his brothers and sons. So in Nepal we realise to-day the old truth of the British constitution that the King reigns but does not govern. The Maharajah Dhirajah is too sacred to be troubled with mundane affairs, and he stands aloof from all share in the administration of the State. The Minister is the *de facto* ruler.

The name of Nepal must specially appeal to the imagination of every Hindu. As an ancient and powerful kingdom, it is referred to in our early Sanskrit literature. The best soldiers of the Indian army are now drawn from its hardy and warlike mountaineers. While to-day it is an independent kingdom, its rulers have always cherished the greatest regard for and the truest friendship with the British Government, and have drawn their best lessons in State-craft by observing and imitating it in every possible way. That Nepal may long continue to be the beautiful relic of the hoary past of India, and that it may thrive and keep pace with modern civilization and progress under the sway of its Ministers and the protection of its Maharajah Dhirajah, must be the wish of every Indian!

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SIR BHUPINDAR SINGH BAHADUR, G. C. I. E., MAHARAJAH OF PATIALA

PATIALA, the leading Sikh State in the Punjab, is the most important of the Phulkian States as the principalities of Patiala, Jind, and Nabha are collectively known. It is the largest and most populous of the Punjab States, yielding a revenue of nearly seventy-five lakhs of rupees. Originally in the hands of the Bhati Rajputs, it passed later into those of the Sikh rulers.

The early rulers of Patiala belonged to the Siddhu-Barar tribe, the most powerful Jat clan to the south of the Sutlej. The members of the tribe trace their descent to a Bhati Rajput, named Jaisal, the founder of the State of Jaisalmer. Among their chiefs the most distinguished were Mohan and his son, Rup Chand. Both of them were slain about 1618 in a skirmish with the Bhattis. Rup Chand left two sons, Phul and Sandali. But Kala, the second son of Mohan, became the Chief and guardian of Phul and Sandali. From Phul have descended the ruling families of Phulkian States. He left behind him Tiloka, Rama, and four other sons. The families of Jind and Nabha are the direct descendants of Tiloka, the eldest son of Phul, and the house of Patiala owes its origin to Rama, the second son.

As the Bhattis declined in power, the Sikhs seized the opportunity to overthrow them. The territory fell into the hands of Ala Singh who proved himself the ablest and most powerful Sikh Chief of his time. In 1762 Ala Singh was taken prisoner by Ahmed Shah Durrani, but on payment of a heavy ransom of four lakhs, he was released. To strengthen his own position with the aid of the Sikhs against the Moghuls, Ahmed Shah Durrani conferred on Ala Singh the title of *Rajah* in 1762, and granted him authority to mint money in his own name. Ala Singh thus became the first Rajah of Patiala, and the real founder of the State. When Ahmed Shah Durrani invaded India for the last time, Amar Singh, a grandson of Ala Singh, met him at Karabawana, twenty-four miles to the south-west of Amballa on the banks of the Ummaila Nadi, and was there conferred the distinction of *Raja-i-Raj-gan*. He was a capable administrator, brave

warrior, and powerful chief. His military valour and courage won him new territories. He extended his dominions and consolidated his power. On his death in 1871, his infant son, Sahib Singh, barely seven years old, was placed on the *gadi*. During his minority the administration was ably conducted by his Wazir, Dewan Nanu Mal. But owing to the disastrous effects of the terrible famine of 1783, the State declined. To avert internal troubles the aid of the Mahrattas was sought. But the new evil proved worse, as the Mahrattas levied blackmail on the subjects. The power of the Dewan was at an end, and also that of Rani Rajindar, a cousin of Amar Singh, who often aided the Wazir. Thereupon Sahib Singh, who was but fourteen years old, took the reins of the government into his own hands, and appointed his sister, Sahib Kaur, Chief Minister. By her courage and skill she saved the State in 1794 from the invasion of the Mahrattas whom she completely routed and drove back on Karnal.

Soon after this the Chief and his sister fell out. The Minister's influence was on the wane, and within a few years she died. Subsequently the State was disturbed by foreign invasions. As a protection against similar invasions the Cis-Sutlej Chiefs made a representation to General Perron at Delhi, and sought his aid. This led to the British intervention in the internal affairs of the State. Through their timely and effective help, the freedom of the chiefs was restored.

Meanwhile the relations between Sahib Singh and his wife became strained, and each distrusted the other. Ranjit Singh of Lahore intervened and for a time dissensions seemed to disappear. But on the withdrawal of Ranjit Singh there was a renewal of the old quarrel. In 1807 Ranjit again appeared on the scene and favoured the Rani by conferring on her Banur and other districts, yielding annually half a lakh of rupees. Fearing the influence of Ranjit Singh at Patiala, the Chiefs of Patiala, Jind, and Kaithal combined together, and made overtures to the British Resident at Delhi. This led to the conclusion of a treaty with Ranjit Singh, by which Ranjit Singh agreed to withdraw from the Cis-Sutlej territory, and British protection was guaranteed to the Chiefs of Malwa and Sirhind. The internal peace of Patiala was also secured. Subsequently such protection was guaranteed also to the Cis-Sutlej Chiefs against one another. Still there were troubles in the State, and the British Agent forthwith appointed the Maharani As Kaur, Regent, and invested her with full ruling powers. She conducted herself in an admirable manner, and showed great administrative skill. Her regime on the whole proved highly beneficial to the State. Maharajah Sahib Singh died in 1813, and the Regency immediately came to an end. He was succeeded by

Karm Singh. During his reign he rendered valuable services to the British Government. When the Ghurka war broke out in 1814, the Patiala State forces served under Colonel Ochterlony. In appreciation of the Maharajah's loyalty, the British added to his dominions sixteen parganas in the Simla Hills in return for a *Nazarana* of Rs. 2,80,000. There had arisen a dispute between the Maharajah and the British Government as to the possession of the Ilaqua of Hissar and Sirsa, seized by the Government after the overthrow of the Bhattis which was finally settled in 1856, when some forty-one villages were handed over to Patiala. Also in 1845 when war broke out between Ranjit Singh of Lahore and the British, the Maharajah remained a loyal and faithful ally of the British and rendered them great help in the shape of troops and supplies. But he died suddenly during the war, and was succeeded by his son, Narindar Singh. When the war terminated, certain estates resumed from the Chief of Nabha were granted as a reward to the Maharajah for his active and loyal services during the war.

There was yet one more conspicuous instance of the profound loyalty to the British Throne of the House of Patiala. During the dark days of the Sepoy Mutiny, the Maharajah, the acknowledged leader of the Sikhs, not only remained loyal to the British Government but actively engaged himself in suppressing the rebellion. Of his valuable support, the British Commissioner wrote :—" His support at such a crisis was worth a brigade of English troops to us, and served more to tranquillize the people than a hundred official disclaimers could have done." When the Mutiny was quelled, the Maharajah received portions of Kanaud and Buddhuana together with the Narnaul division on the Jhajjar territory, and a palatial house at Delhi, all amounting to about three lakhs of rupees in value, in liquidation of the loan advanced by the Maharajah to the British Government during the Mutiny. The sovereignty of the Taluq of Khamanon and the administrative jurisdiction of the Bhadour Sardars were also transferred to the State. The title of *Farzand-i-Khas Daulat-i-Inglishia, Mansur-i-Zaman, Amir-ul-Umra Sri* was conferred on the Maharajah in heredity, and the number of trays of Khillat also increased. In return for these, the Maharajah gave a *nazarana* equal in amount to twenty years' revenue.

On a united representation from the Phulkian Chiefs in 1858, the British Government granted them in 1860 the right of adoption, and also restored to them the power to inflict capital punishment. Further, the Chiefs were allowed to choose a successor from among the members of the Phulkian family, if any of the Chiefs should die without either leaving a male issue or adopting an heir. Narindar Singh was known

for his statesmanship, wisdom and valour. The Government conferred on him the title of K. C. S. I., and His Highness was among the first few Indian Chiefs to receive this high distinction. During Lord Canning's Viceroyalty, His Highness was also a member of the Indian Legislative Council. He died in 1862 at the comparatively early age of thirty-nine.

While yet a boy of ten, Mohindar Singh, his only son, succeeded to the *gadi*, and during his minority a Council of Regency carried on the administration. One notable event of his reign was that sanction was given to the construction of the Sirhind Canal, towards the cost of which the Durbar gave a munificent sum of one crore and twenty-three lakhs of rupees. The Maharajah was a liberal patron of arts. He gave a handsome donation of Rs. 70,000 to the University College at Lahore. In 1873 his philanthropy showed itself in his generous contribution of ten lakhs for famine relief in Bengal. Lord Northbrook was the first Viceroy to visit Patiala; and in honour of His Excellency's visit, the Maharajah founded at Patiala the Mohindar College for encouraging education. In 1871 His Highness was created a Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India. In 1875 H. R. H. the Prince of Wales graciously paid a visit to the Maharajah at Rajpura, and to commemorate the event Albert Edward Mohindar Ganj was established near Rajpura. He died in 1876.

Maharajah Rajindar succeeded his father as a little child of four years. *Again a Council of Regency was formed, with Sardar Sir* Dewa Singh, K. C. S. I., as President. The Council directed its attention chiefly to State finance, and within a short time they were able to effect considerable savings and to improve the financial condition of the State. During the Afghan war of 1879, the State sent a contingent of about 1,100 men in aid of the British. For this loyal service the British Government exempted the Maharajah from presenting *Nazars*. The Maharajah was the first Indian Chief who organised a corps of Imperial Service Troops. His Highness was also in command of a regiment during the Tirah expedition of 1897.

The other notable and important events of his regime are :—(1) the completion of the Sirhind Canal; (2) the contribution of lakhs towards the construction of the Sirsa Branch Western Jumna Canal ; (3) the construction of a Railway line from Rajpura to Bhatinda traversing mostly through the State territory 108 miles in length at a total cost of about seventy lakhs ; (4) the offer of a large number of trained remounts for the British Cavalry during the South African War ; (5) the conferment on the Maharajah the exalted order of G. C. S. I. in 1893 by His Excellency Lord Elgin, the then Viceroy ; (6) the handsome donations given to the

following institutions (a) Rs. 55,000 to the Punjab University in honour of H.R.H. Prince Albert Victor's visit to Patiala in 1890; (b) Rs. 1,62,000 towards the Khalsa College, Amritsar; (c) Rs. 2,000 towards the Punjab Association, Lahore; (d) Rs. 30,000 towards the Imperial Institute, London.

On his death in 1900, he was succeeded by his son, Maharajah Bhupindar Singh, the present ruler. His Highness was born in 1891, and received a sound education at the Aitchison College, Lahore. He holds the first rank among the Punjab Chiefs, and is entitled to a salute of seventeen guns.

During the minority of the Maharajah the affairs of the State were conducted by a Council of Regency. The finances of the Durbar were placed in a sound condition; the judicial administration was reformed; a regular land settlement was introduced; and irrigation works were extended. The Water Works of the Patiala City, the foundation stone of which was laid by His Excellency Lord Minto in 1906, and the Drainage System have been completed at a cost of eleven and eight lakhs respectively, and an electric installation for lighting the city has also been set up at a considerable cost, Marked improvements have, moreover, been effected in the medical and educational institutions in particular and other Departments in general. In 1908 the wedding of the Maharajah with the daughter of Sardar Bahadur Gurnam Singh of Sangrur, Commander of the Jind Army, was celebrated on a grand scale.

H. E. the Viceroy, Lord Minto, invested H. H. the Maharajah with full administrative powers in November 1910. Soon after His Highness took the reins of administration into his hands, the Arya Samaj sedition case engaged his serious attention, the disposal of which gave immense satisfaction not only to his subjects but also to the public outside his State.

In order to diffuse the benefits of education throughout his State, His Highness has arranged to provide every village having thirty boys with a primary school in which they could learn the Gurumukhi language. In regard to the appointment of Zaildars, Nambardars, and other officials he has ruled that, other qualifications and considerations being equal, preference should be given to those who are educated and have assisted in the spread of, or otherwise taken an interest in, education. His Highness has granted a donation of Rs. 10,000 towards the funds of the Sikh Kanya Mahavidyala, Ferozepore, an institution that is doing excellent work in furthering female education, and His Highness also helps it with a monthly grant of Rs. 600.

The Maharajah of Patiala is a keen sportsman, cricket being his favourite game. In the beginning of 1911, an Indian cricket team under

the captaincy of His Highness proceeded to England. Unfortunately, owing to sudden and serious indisposition, he was unable to take part in more than three matches. Acting under medical advice, His Highness was compelled to return to India.

At the last Delhi Durbar, His Majesty the King-Emperor was pleased to confer on the Maharajah the distinction of G. C. I. E. To commemorate the bestowal of this title, His Highenss held a durbar at Patiala on the 29th March 1912, when he announced the following boons to his subjects:—Rs. 1,50,000 for improvement of towns, Rs. 50,000 for a model sanitary village, Rs. 30,000 for female education, Rs. 20,000 for primary education, Rs. 10,000 recurring grant for primary education, raising of the Mohindra College to the M. A. Standard, improvement in the grades of Professors, building of the Town Hall and Library, and opening of three new grain markets, and a number of schools including one for music.

Large donations have been made by His Highness, viz., (1) the Minto Memorial, Rs 5,000 ; (2) the Dunlop Smith Memorial, Rs. 2,000 ; (3) the Victoria Memorial Hall, Calcutta, Rs. 100,000 ; (4) the Kangra Relief Fund, Rs. 10,000 ; (5) the Pasteur Institute, Kasauli, Rs. 5,000 ; (6) the King Edward Memorial, Punjab, Rs. 200,000 ; (7) the founding of foreign scholarship in the Khalsa College, Amritsar, in commemoration of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales's visit to Lahore, Rs. 100,000 ; (8) in commemoration of H. R. H's safe return to England, half of which goes to the Victoria Memorial High School, Lahore, and the other half to Lady Minto's Fund for nurses, Rs. 50,000 ; (9) towards the endowment funds of the Khalsa College, Rs. 600,000 ; and (10) for the construction of a Sikh Dharmsala in London, £ 8,000.

H. E, the Viceroy paid a visit to Patiala in March 1912, when at a banquet His Excellency observed.—

I am confident that the same friendship and loyalty that existed between my grandfather and Maharajah Narindar Singh will be extended by the present Maharajah to me and the Government of India. I have watched with keen sympathy His Highness's career, and I cannot but warmly applaud the sagacity with which he has selected, as his Ministers, two men of high ideals and unchallenged probity, and on whose advice he can rely with absolute confidence amid the many pitfalls which beset a Ruler's path. His Highness may rest assured that he can always count on my warm sympathy and keen interest in his future. I need not remind some of those present here to-day that, on no less than four occasions, during the past half a century, Patiala has offered her troops for active service and twice they actually went to the front and there maintained exemplary discipline and proved themselves to be excellent soldiers. From what I saw this morning the very high standard of

discipline and efficiency that his troops have attained and particularly his splendid regiments of Imperial Service Troops, I am convinced that, if ever called upon, they will render in the future even more brilliant and loyal services than in the past.

I feel confident that, as in the past, so in the future, the British Government will ever find Patiala at their right hand ready to support and assist by its example, by its co-operation, and, if necessary, which God forbid, with its troops. His Highness's great-grandfather was distinguished no less for the liberality of his administration than for his loyalty in the field, and I cannot refrain from mentioning the occasion on which he abolished transit duties at the suggestion of my grandfather's Government and refused to accept any compensation, sacrificing, as my grandfather phrased it, a present and apparent gain for future permanent good, for the welfare of his subjects and for the advancement of the interests of commerce. It was then that my grandfather recommended the increase of his salute to seventeen guns, which Your Highness now enjoys, and I cannot do better than use to Your Highness the very words which my grandfather used to your great-grandfather. It is my earnest wish that Your Highness may long live to extend to your subjects the blessings of your government and to your contemporaries the advantage of your generous example.

The area of the State is 5,412 square miles and the population is 1,407,659, of whom 77 per cent are Hindus, including 22 per cent Sikhs, and 23 per cent are Mahomedans. 88 per cent of the people speak *Punjabi*. The Jats form about 30 per cent of the population. In education Patiala is rather backward. But through the special efforts now made by His Highness the State is sure to come up to modern standards in this matter also. 62 per cent are engaged in agriculture.

Gram, barley, *jowar*, and wheat are the principal food grains. Mustard is grown in abundance. Sugarcane, cotton, tobacco, and millet are also cultivated. In the hill tract they grow potatoes, ginger, turmeric, rice, and Indian corn. Cash rents are rare. The landholder's share averages one-third of the produce. Since 1901 the State has advanced loans to the ryots. Such advances till the end of 1906 amounted to nearly Rs. 80,000. Some ponies are reared in the Narwana *tahsil*. There is also a State stud at Patiala. Cattle fairs are generally held twice a year.

Formerly the land revenue was collected in kind instead of in coin. But in 1862 a cash assessment was levied. In 1901 a regular settlement was undertaken. The Public Works Department has done much to benefit the ryots. Its great achievement is seen in the construction of protective works against the devastations of floods. Manufactures are confined to a few towns. Gold lace, cotton fabrics, silk, brass and bell metal wares, and wood carving are the chief industries. There is also a workshop at Patiala.

The State owns the Rajpura-Bhatinda Railway, a branch of the North-Western Railway, which is, however, worked by the N. W. Railway authorities. A mono-rail tramway was opened in 1907, and it runs between Basi and Sirhind. Ordinary British postal stamps, with the addition "Patiala State" impressed, are used.

The administration of the various Departments of the State is controlled by His Highness through the Secretaries whose designations, according to the work entrusted to them, are:—(1) The Confidential Secretary, (2) the Financial Secretary, (3) the Judicial Secretary, (4) the Foreign Secretary, (5) the Secretary, Military Department, and (6) the Private Secretary. The Confidential Secretary is senior to all the Secretaries.

The Chief Court is the highest appellate Court for the administration of justice in civil and criminal cases, the confirmation of His Highness (Ijlas-i-Khas) being compulsory in all cases of capital punishment. There are also Panchayat Courts in the rural tracts of the State. The capital of the State has a municipality organised on the lines of the Punjab system.

The State forces comprise the Imperial Service Contingent and the local troops. The former consists of one regiment of cavalry and two battalions of infantry, the latter of one regiment of cavalry, two battalions of infantry, and one battery of artillery, with fifty serviceable guns. The total strength of the State army is 3,429 officers, non-commissioned officers and men, all included. The police force contains nearly 2,000 officers and men of all ranks and is under the control of the State Inspector-General of Police. There are two jails, the Central Jail at Patiala and the other at Mohindargarh. Besides the Arts College at the capital, there are twenty-one secondary and eighty-nine primary schools, with three advanced and 129 elementary private schools, all controlled by the State Director of Public Instruction. Thirty-four hospitals and dispensaries under the superintendence of an officer of the Indian Medical Service provide the necessary medical aid. A training school for Midwives and Nurses was opened in 1906. Vaccination, though not compulsory, is popular.

The full titles of the Maharajah are—His Highness Farzand-i-Khas Daulat-i-Inglishia Mansur-ul-Zaman Amir-ul-Umara Maharajah Dhiraj Rajeshwar Sri Maharajah-i-Rajgan Maharajah Sir Bhupindar Singh Sahib Mohindar Bahadur, G.C.I.E.

Blessed with peace and secure from all external danger, Patiala may be expected to have a prosperous time under its present young ruler who has had all the advantages of a good education and an excellent training to befit him for his life-work.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SRI SUMER SINGH SAHIB BAHADUR MAHARAJAH OF JODHPUR

JODHPUR (MARWAR) is the largest State in Rajputana with an area of 34,963 square miles. Marwar, which literally means 'region of death,' is sandy and consequently not fertile. The northern and north-western portions are all a desert, called the *thal*. The Aravalli hills form the eastern boundary of the State. The Luni is the chief river, and there is a lake at Sambhar. The climate is dry, and the rainfall scanty.

The Chiefs of Jodhpur are said to have descended from Rama, the King of Ayodhya. They are the head of the Rathor clan of Rajputs, originally known as Rashtras (protectors). Gradually the clan branched off into two great sections, Rashtra-kuta (Kuta=Highest) and Maha-rashtra (Maha=Great). Asoka, in some of his edicts, distinctly says that members of this clan were the rulers of the Deccan; and the king from whom a connected history can be had is Abhimanyu of the fifth or the sixth century A. D. For four centuries, nineteen Rashtra-kuta kings held sway over the Deccan. Later on when they were ousted by Chalukyas or Solanki Rajputs, they repaired to Kanauj; and there a branch of the family settled down in the ninth century. For over a decade it led a secluded life, and then founded a dynasty known as Gaharwar. A distinguished member of the family, Jai Chand, was the King of Kanauj in 1194. His successor, Siahji, who rose to prominence in 1212, acquired immense territory. The tenth of his successors, Rao Chonda, obtained Mandor from the Parihar ruler and married his daughter, and thus made his position stronger and more secure. For nearly eighty years Mandor was the capital of the Rathor chiefs. Before his death in 1409, Rao Chonda annexed Nagpur and other places. It was Rao Jodha who removed his capital from Mandor to Jodhpur in 1459. He had more than a dozen sons, some of whom displayed extraordinary valour on many a field of battle. Bika, the sixth of his sons, was the founder of the State of Bikanir.

Rao Maldeo, commonly known as 'the most powerful prince', who ruled from 1532-69, added largely to his dominion and made the State powerful and influential. His elder son, Udai Singh, who occupied the *gadi* in 1581, entered into matrimonial alliances with the Moghul Emperors, gave away his daughter in marriage to prince Salim (Jahangir) and his sister to Akbar. It was not long before he got back almost all the lost possessions of his house, and he won several valuable districts in Malwa and enjoyed the title of Rajah. His successors, Sur Singh and Gaj Singh, figured most prominently in many wars, in recognition of which the Moghul Emperors conferred on the former the title of Sawai Rajah. The latter, who was the Viceroy of the Deccan, was generally called *Dalbhanjan*, (destroyer of the army) and *Dalthamban* (leader of the host).

The first of the rulers of Jodhpur, who won the title of Maharajah, was Jaswant Singh (1638-78). In 1658 he was elevated to the viceroyalty of Malwa, and distinguished himself in the war against Aurangzeb and Murad when they raised a standard of revolt against their father. He died in 1678, when he was succeeded by his posthumous son, Ajit Singh. Availing himself of the infancy of Ajit Singh, Aurangzeb invaded Marwar, plundered Jodhpur and its neighbouring towns, and laid plans for making the Rathor clan embrace Islamism. Aurangzeb died in 1707, when Ajit Singh recovered his capital. In 1708 a triple alliance was formed to subvert the Mahomedan sway. The most important item of the alliance was that the Chiefs of Jodhpur and Jaipur should regain the privilege of marrying with the Udaipur family, which was discontinued after their matrimonial relations with the Moghul Houses. It was also understood that the right of succession of the children of the Udaipur princesses in preference to those by other wives, should be considered valid. Till 1756 the affairs of Jodhpur were anything but satisfactory owing to internal dissensions and family feuds. After 1756, for several years, Jodhpur enjoyed peace, which was broken by the sudden rise of the Mahrattas, when the three States, Mewar, Jodhpur and Jaipur, united against their common foe. In the battle that ensued Jodhpur suffered heavy loss and lost the province of Ajmer. Bijai Singh, the Chief of Jodhpur, died in 1793, and he was succeeded by his grandson, Bhim Singh.

In 1803 the Mahratta war commenced, when Man Singh was the Chief of Jodhpur. Troubles and losses soon ensued, owing partly to the advancement of the claims of Dhonkal Singh, the posthumous son of Bhim Singh, and partly to a war between the Rajahs of Jaipur and Jodhpur for the hand of a princess of Udaipur. Amir Khan, the Pindari leader, first advocated the cause of Jaipur and then that of Jodhpur. He took charge of the management of the latter State, and forced Man Singh to

abdicate and to feign madness. Within two years of his control over Jodhpur, Amir Khan carried away all that was in the treasury, and left the Province in a thoroughly impoverished condition. In January 1818, the British Government entered into a treaty with Chhatar Singh, the son of Man Singh, who then became the Regent. The English took Jodhpur under their protection, and the State agreed (1) to pay an annual tribute of Rs. 1,08,000 (reduced in 1847 to Rs. 98,000, in consideration of the cession of the fort and district of Umarkot), and (2) to furnish, when required, a contingent of 1,500 horse (an obligation converted in 1835 to an annual payment of Rs. 1,15,000). Chhatar Singh died, and his father came out of the guise of insanity and occupied the *gadi*. He began to wreak his vengeance on the nobles of his State who were opposed to his interests in his difficulties. They applied to the British for protection, and at the instance of the latter power, the nobles got back their lost estates. Another disturbance soon broke out, when the English led an army against Jodhpur and Man Singh agreed to manage the State better. He died in 1843 without issue, when his widows, with the concurrence of the nobles and officials of the State, selected Takht Singh, Chief of Ahmednagar, who was accordingly installed as Maharajah of Jodhpur. He died in 1873, and he was succeeded by his eldest son, Jaswant Singh. Dacoities and violent crimes, which had taken deep root in the State, were stamped out by the rigorous measures which His Highness introduced. The Maharajah pushed on the construction of railways and irrigation works, improved the customs tariff, and introduced a regular revenue settlement. Every department in the State was thoroughly examined and carefully reformed. His Highness's loyalty to the Paramount Power was well-known, and he started two regiments of Imperial Service Cavalry. He won the distinction of G. C. S. I. in 1875, and his salute was raised from seventeen to twenty-one guns. He died in 1895, and his only son, Sardar Singh, succeeded him while yet a minor.

His Highness the Maharajah Sardar Singh was born in 1880. During his minority the State was administered by his uncle, H. H. the Maharajah Sir Pratap Singh Bahadur (afterwards the Maharajah of Idar), assisted by a council. The young Maharajah was invested with full administrative powers in 1898. The Jodhpur Imperial Service Lancers rendered very valuable aid to the British in the disturbances on the North-West Frontier in 1898, and in China in 1900. The local coin which was in currency till 1900 was abolished, when the British coin became the medium of exchange. The Maharajah visited England in 1901, and was a member of the Imperial Cadet Corps from January 1902 to August 1903.

In reply to the invitation issued by H. E. Lord Curzon, in connection with the Delhi Durbar of 1903, His Highness observed :—" I hail

this opportunity the more, as my ancestors' guiding principle has always been staunch fealty and unswerving allegiance to the British Throne." The Maharajah attended the Durbar as a member of the Imperial Cadet Corps. He enjoyed the distinction of G. C. S. I. Amidst the universal grief of his subjects and of the lovers of this progressive State, His Highness passed away on the 21st March 1911. His elder son, Prince Sumer Singh Sahib Bahadur, was proclaimed his successor, and a Council of Regency was formed consisting of Major-General H. H. the Maharajah Dhiraj Sir Pratap Singh Bahadur of Idar, as Regent, and Maharaj Sri Zalim Singhji Sahib Bahadur, as Vice-President. The young Prince is under the guardianship of Captain Strong, and he and his younger brother are now being educated in England.

Jodhpur is divided into twenty-three districts or *hukumats*, each of which is under the control of an officer known as Hakim. The Maharajah generally rules over the State assisted by the Mahakma Khas and a Consultative Council. The State has its own codes and laws prepared on the model of those in British India. The Durbar has more than forty courts, and there are nearly forty-five courts under Jaghirdars. The revenue of the State is about sixty lakhs, and the expenditure nearly forty lakhs.

There are in all 4,030 villages in the State, of which 690 are under the control of the Durbar and occupy one-seventh of the whole area. The remaining villages are in the possession of Jaghirdars, Bhumias and Inamdars. The Jaghirdar pays annually a military cess calculated at 8 per cent. of the gross rental value of his estate, and supplies one horseman for every Rs. 1,000 of the rental value. A petty Jaghirdar should supply one foot soldier for every Rs. 500 or one camel sowar for every Rs. 750. There are, however, some Jaghirdars who do not supply horsemen but merely pay a stipulated amount. There is also a succession fee known as *hukmnama*, reckoned at 75 per cent. of the annual rental value. The Bhumias have definite services to perform—they should protect their villages, escort treasure, and guard the officials when on tour. The Inamdar is the holder of lands free of rent for services rendered. The grant may be for a single life only or for enjoyment by the grantee's descendants in perpetuity.

The State has constructed 400 miles of railway. This has proved of incalculable value in relieving the famines that have pressed down Jodhpur for a number of years. The railways give a fair return on the outlay. The criminal tribes who till recently lived by preying upon villages and plundering travellers with impunity, have been kept in check by free

grants of land. They have since become peaceful cultivators though under surveillance. It is said that more than a hundred thousand men have been thus reclaimed. Colonel G. H. Trevor, writing in the *Anglo-Indian Review* in 1903, observed:—"I doubt if there is any *State* in which Time, assisted by Sir Partab Singh and the British Government, has wrought such changes in a few years as in Jodhpur. Order has been evolved out of chaos in every department of the administration."

The population of Jodhpur is 20,50,131. More than 58 per cent. are landholders and about 3 per cent. are partial agriculturists. Cotton industry gives occupation to 5 per cent. and over 3 per cent. are engaged in commerce and general labour. The ploughing of the land depends upon the stiffness or otherwise of the soil. In the cultivation of spring crops, the land is ploughed from five to seven times. The principal crops are *bajra, jowar, moth, til,* maize and cotton. In fertile parts, wheat, barley, grain and mustard-seed are grown. Salt is manufactured by the British Government. Marble, sandstone and gypsum are the minerals in the State. Cotton fabrics are dyed and printed in some parts of the Jodhpur and Godwar districts. Dyed turbans for men and scarves for women with embroidered silk are also made.

There are in the State two regiments of Imperial Service Lancers numbering over 1,200, and a local force consisting of about 600 cavalry with camel sowars and 2,400 infantry. The artillery has 254 of all ranks besides 121 guns. The police force numbers 1,500 officers and men, and is under an Inspector-General. Of the twenty States and Chiefships of Rajputana, Jodhpur is second in point of education, and it is imparted *free*. The State maintains thirty-three institutions, of which one is for girls. In the Jodhpur city there are the Arts College, the High School, and the Sanskrit school.

The full titles of the Maharajah who is entitled to a salute of seventeen guns, are—His Highness Raj Rajeshwar Maharajah Dhiraj Saramad Rajhai Hind Maharajah Sri Sumer Singh Sahib Bahadur.

When in due course the present young Prince, after the completion of his education, is called to his high position, he will no doubt find that he has a prosperous and flourishing State to rule over with immense opportunities to serve his people. The training he receives amidst his present great surroundings in the West, coupled with the noble and chivalrous traditions of the ancient House of Mewar, may be expected to make him an ideal Indian Ruler of his time.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAO SIR UMED SINGH BAHADUR II, G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E., MAHARAO OF KOTAH

THE progenitors of the ruling families of Kotah and Bundi in Rajputana, who were Chauhan Rajputs of the Hara sept, were originally of one and the same stock; but from the beginning of the seventeenth century, the house of Kotah separated itself and became a branch of the Bundi family. Kotah and Bundi were for a long time known as Haraoti or the land of the Haras. About 1342 the Chief of Bundi was Rao Dewa, whose grandson, Jet Singh, captured Kotah city which was in the possession of some Bhils. He and his descendants successfully ruled over it for five generations. In 1530 Rao Suraj Mal, the Chief of Bundi, occupied it. Two centuries later, during the reign of Ratan Singh, he gave away Kotah and its dependencies as a Jaghir to his second son, Madho Singh. Kurram, son of the Emperor Jehangir, raised a revolt against his father, when Ratan Singh and Madho Singh joined the Imperial army. For this service, the Emperor presented Ratan Singh with the governorship of Burhanpur, and Madho Singh obtained Kotah with its 360 dependencies to be ruled by him and his heirs in perpetuity. The revenue of the Kotah State then was only two lakhs. Kotah became a separate principality in 1625, and its first ruler, Madho Singh, enjoyed the title of Rajah.

Passing over a number of chiefs, we come to Bhim Singh (1720), who was the first to assume the title of Maharao, and who won the distinction of Panj Hazari (leadership of five thousand) from the Saiyid brothers, commonly known as the "king-makers" of Delhi. During his time he managed to add largely to his dominions. His son, Durjan Sal, who occupied the *gadi* for over thirty years, thwarted the designs of the Jaipur Chief, who tried to capture Kotah. The Ruler of Jaipur directed his arms against the State, impelled by the ambition to reduce the Haras to vassalage. The Jaipur armies, though strong in number, met with a serious disaster. The young commander of the Kotah army, Zalim Singh, who later on administered the State as Regent, greatly distinguished himself in

the struggle. Umed Singh I, the nephew of Chhatarsal, came to power in 1771. For well-nigh fifty years, Umed Singh was but a nominal ruler as the sole authority remained in the hands of Zalim Singh, who was active, vigilant and enterprising. He brought into working order a constitutional form of administration; he gave new vigour to the army by the introduction of European methods of arming and drilling; and he revised the revenue settlement. He devised means to give greater stability to the principality, and made it feudatory to the British Government by a treaty in 1817. A supplementary article was drawn up in February 1818, in virtue of which the administration was vested in Zalim Singh and his heirs in perpetuity, the State of course being in the possession of Umed Singh and his successors. During the time of Ram Singh II (1828-66), the relations between him and his Minister were strained, and were about to culminate in a popular revolt to subvert the power of the Minister, when the State was divided, and the new principality of Jhalawar was created for the descendants of Zalim Singh. The British Government formed a separate treaty with Kotah in 1838, when the tribute was reduced to Rs. 80,000 and the Maharao consented to maintain an auxiliary force at a cost of not more than three lakhs, which was reduced to two lakhs in 1844. Till 1874 the affairs of the Kotah State were in utter confusion and disorder. With the consent of the then Chief, Chhatarsal II, the British Government appointed Nawab Sir Faiz Ali Khan of Pahasu to administer the State subject to the advice and control of the Governor-General's Agent in Rajputana. The Nawab held the office for only two years, and on his retirement a British Political Agent with a Council was appointed, which arrangement continued till the death of the Chief in 1889. Before his demise H. H. the Maharao Chhatarsal II adopted the present Chief, the second son of Maharajah Chaggan Singh of Kotra, an estate near Kotah.

His Highness the Maharao Umed Singh II was placed on the *gadi* in 1889. He received his education at the Mayo College, Ajmer, for two years, and obtained partial authority in 1892 and full powers in 1896. On the deposition of the late Chief of Jhalawar, the British Government restored to His Highness the Maharao fifteen of the districts which had been ceded in 1838 when that State was established. One other important feature of the present administration is the construction of the railway from the south-eastern border to the town of Baran. The effective measures His Highness introduced during the famine of 1899-1900 were beyond all praise. He lately adopted the Imperial Postal system, and introduced British currency into his State. The Maharao encourages his subjects to avail themselves of the advantages of education, by making the educational institutions free, and supplying them with books, writing materials,

&c., free of cost. He takes a keen interest in agriculture and industry, more especially in the revival of the *muslin* manufacture for which Kotah has long been noted. His Highness is on friendly terms with the young Sirdars of the Durbar. He takes active steps to improve the sanitation of the State. He obtained the distinction of K. C. S. I. in 1900, and in 1903 he became an Honorary Major in the 42nd (Deoli) Regiment. His Highness the Maharao was created a G. C. I. E. in 1907, and, on the occasion of the recent Delhi Durbar, His Imperial Majesty conferred on him the distinction of G. C. S. I. His Highness is entitled to a salute of seventeen guns.

In January 1902, Lord Curzon invited the Maharao to attend the Conference at Calcutta which His Excellency convened for discussing the future of the Chiefs' Colleges. His Highness, who is an old and devoted pupil of the Mayo College at Ajmer, was able to give them useful information and valuable advice.

At the State banquet, held on the 6th November 1902, H. E. the Viceroy, replying to the toast proposed by H. H. the Maharao of Kotah, observed :—

I am glad that my tour in Rajputana, the classic ground of Indian bravery and romance, should commence at a State that is ruled over by a young Prince of so excellent a record and so good a prince as the Maharao of Kotah ; and I am pleased to learn from his speech that His Highness shares this feeling.

It is quite true, as the Maharao has remarked, that Kotah suffered severely in the last famine, and the State has in consequence been temporarily embarrassed by debt. His Highness, however, though he did not say this, has set the best of examples by reducing his personal expenditure and postponing certain forms of outlay upon which he would otherwise have embarked.

After the Delhi Durbar was over, Her Majesty arrived in Kotah on the afternoon of the 25th December 1911, at 2-30 by motor-car. At the border of the State of Kotah, some five miles from the city, Her Imperial Majesty was received by the Maharao at the head of a body of his troops and by the Political Agent, both of whom attended her to the Agency which had been prepared for her reception. Guards of Honour were mounted by the 42nd (Deoli) Regiment and by the State troops of Kotah. The following morning, the Queen-Empress drove to the Fort and Palace, escorted by the State troops under the personal command of the Maharao. His Highness had then the honour of conducting Her Imperial Majesty over the buildings. In the afternoon she visited the "Abhera" under the personal guidance of the Maharao. After dinner, in the evening, the Queen-Empress witnessed the illuminations of the city

and the river. The Maharao had then the *honour to offer the nazars* consisting of elephants, horses, jewels and rich fabrics, which Her Imperial Majesty was graciously pleased to inspect and remit. On the 27th, the Queen-Empress with her suite in attendance went to a picnic which had been arranged for Her Imperial Majesty by the Maharao. Her Imperial Majesty, attended by the whole of her suite, left Kotah by train for Calcutta on the 28th. The escort and the Guard of Honour were furnished by the State troops, and the Maharao with his principal Sirdars was in attendance at the station to take leave of Her Imperial Majesty.

The area of the State is 3,797 square miles, with a population of about 6,00,000. The principal rivers are the Chambal, the Kali Sindh, and the Parbati. The Mukandwara range of hills traverses the State. The country is fertile and well-watered. The mineral products are not noteworthy. Good building stone can be had throughout the State. Cotton weaving is the most important industry. Silver table-ornaments, and embroidered elephant and horse-trappings, are prepared at Shergarh; inlaid work on ivory, buffalo horn, or mother-of-pearl, at Etawah; lacquered toys and other articles, at Gainta and Indargarh.

His Highness the Maharao administers the State assisted by a Dewan. The State has its own codes framed on the lines of the British Indian enactments, which are amended to suit local conditions. The highest and final appellate court is known as the Mahakma Khas, which is presidedover by the Maharao, who alone can pass a sentence of death. The revenue of the State is a little over thirty lakhs.

The army numbers nearly 8,000 of all ranks, consisting of 910 (609 irregular), artillerymen 353, and infantry 6,650 (5,456 irregular). There are also 193 guns, of which 62 are said to be useful. There are no British cantonments in Kotah, but according to the treaty of 1838, as amended in 1844, the State contributes two lakhs annually towards the cost of the 42nd (Deoli) Regiment. There are two kinds of police, one for the city (177 of all ranks), and the other for the districts numbering 5,260 with 3,490 sepoys and sowars of the State army and 1,668 Chaukidars or village *watchmen. There are forty-one educational institutions,of which thirty-nine* are primary, five being for girls. There are also the Maharao's High School and the Nobles' school. Education is imparted free throughout the State.

During nearly a quarter of a century of his reign, His Highness has attended to the mental advancement and economic improvement of his subjects, and the continuance of such a prudent and beneficent administration for years to come will be a blessing to them in every respect.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH
SIR GANGA SINGH BAHADUR,
G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., LL.D.,
MAHARAJAH OF BIKANIR

THE Bikanir State, the second largest principality in Rajputana, covers an area of 23,311 square miles. It is mostly desolate, the greater portion consisting of sandy tracts forming parts of the Bagar and the Great Indian Desert. After the rains, however, the country puts on a pleasing appearance, being covered with rich pasture that delights the eye with its beautiful verdure. It is traversed by undulating sand-hills ranging in height from 20 to 100 feet, and the only rocks found are those near Goalpura, the highest of them being 600 feet above the sea-level. There are only two rivers, the Ghaggar and the Katli, which are dry except during rains. The only work of irrigation is that for utilising the waters of the Ghaggar, and it was constructed in 1897 at the joint expense of the British Government and the Bikanir State.

The State has two salt lakes. Coal, gypsum, fuller's earth and sandstone are found in parts. The plant life is of course scanty, but, as already observed, the country affords excellent pasture after the rains. The climate, though dry and generally healthy, is subject to great extremes of heat and cold. The average rainfall is under twelve inches.

In the latter half of the fifteenth century, Bika, a Rathor Rajput, and son of the Chief of Marwar, invaded the country now known as the Bikanir State, and established his supremacy over the Rajputs, the Jats and the Mahomedans who occupied the tract. Bika died in 1504, and in 1541 one of his successors, Jet Singh, was defeated by Maldeo, Chief of Marwar, and Bikanir State was taken. In 1544 Kalyan Singh, son of Jet Singh, recovered Bikanir, and began an alliance with the Emperors of Delhi which considerably affected the subsequent history of the State.

Akbar's historian writes that when Kalyan Singh and his son Rai Singh waited on Akbar in 1570, "the loyalty and sincerity of both father and

son being manifest, the Emperor married Kalyan Singh's daughter." Rai Singh succeeded his father in 1571 and ruled over the Bikanir State for 40 years. He was also one of the greatest generals of Akbar. The Emperor conferred upon him fifty-two districts and allowed him a rank only inferior to that of the Chief of Jaipur. In 1586 Salim (afterwards the Emperor Jahangir) married one of his daughters, and their son Parwez was worsted by Shah Jahan in the struggle for the empire. One of his successors Karan Singh (1631 to 1669) took sides with Aurangzeb in the fratricidal struggle at Delhi and afterwards served under him in the Deccan. Karan Singh's eldest son, Anup Singh (1669-98), also won fame by service in the Deccan, and took an important part in the capture of Golkonda. He was rewarded by Aurangzeb with the title of Maharajah, which has since been held by his successors.

Throughout the eighteenth century Bikanir and Jodhpur were on hostile terms. In 1788 Surat Singh succeeded to the Chieftainship, and twenty years later when Jodhpur invaded Bikanir for the eighth time, Surat Singh applied for British aid to Major Elphinstone who then passed through Bikanir on his way to Kabul. But the British could not at the time render any assistance as they were bound down to a policy of non-intervention. Subsequently Surat Singh, whose treasury was depleted, began to extort money from his Thakurs by plundering, fining and murdering them, so much so that in 1815 they rose in rebellion against him. The Thakurs, with the assistance of Amir Khan, not only recovered their estates, but proved to be a menace to the State itself. Again, British help was sought and a treaty was concluded in 1818. With the help of the British troops the rebel Thakurs were suppressed and order was restored. Surat Singh died in 1828, and his son, Ratan Singh, in violation of his treaty with the British, entered into a dispute with Jaisalmer. This, however, was settled by the timely intervention of the British. There was a second rebellion of the Thakurs in 1830, when Bikanir again unsuccessfully sought British aid. The Thakurs for the next few years plundered the country unchecked. A special force, called the Shekhawati Brigade, was then formed to suppress these dacoities; and to defray its expenses the Bikanir State contributed annually Rs. 22,000 for seven years.

During the Afghan war (1842), Maharajah Ratan Singh contributed 200 camels. In 1844 he entered into an agreement with the British reducing the scale of transit duties on goods carried through his territories. Further, the Chief rendered military aid in the first and second Sikh wars. His son, Sardar Singh, succeeded him in 1851. He rendered conspicuous service to the British during the Mutiny

by saving the lives of Europeans who had sought shelter at his court, and by fighting against the rebels. In recognition of his services the Government rewarded him in 1861 with the grant of the Tibi Pargana, in the Sirsa District, consisting of forty-one villages. Though the administration of the State was well carried on for a time, the extortions of the Maharajah increased, and there was another rebellion of the Thakurs in 1868. A Political Officer had to be appointed, and amity was thus restored between the Chief and the Thakurs. Sardar Singh was succeeded by his adopted son, Dungar Singh, who was invested with full powers in 1873. The Thakurs again rose in rebellion in 1883. A British army was despatched to the help of Bikanir, and the majority of the Thakurs had to surrender. A Political Agent was permanently appointed, and the relations between the Maharajah and his nobles were thus gradually adjusted.

Before his death in 1887, Dungar Singh with the approval of the Government of India, adopted his brother, the present Maharajah, Ganga Singh, as his successor. The Maharajah, who was born in 1880, received his education at the Mayo College, Ajmer, and he was invested with full administrative powers in 1898. During his minority the State was administered by a Council presided over by the Political Agent. Since his accession to the *gadi*, many marked improvements have been effected in the State. Between 1889 and 1893 an Imperial Service Camel Corps, 500 strong, called after the Chief, Ganga Resala, was raised. It served in China (1900), as an Infantry Regiment, and more recently (1903-04) a detachment of it, about 250 strong, did good work in Somaliland. Between 1889 and 1902 the Durbar constructed a Railway line, 250 miles long, through Bikanir, from the Marwar in the south to the Punjaub border on the north-east, at a cost of fifty-one lakhs. The State currency was reformed. Under an agreement with the Government, copper coins struck for the State at the Calcutta mint were put into circulation. Coal was discovered at Palana about fourteen miles south of Bikanir in 1896. The seam which is said to contain two million tons is worked by the Durbar at a profit of 70 per cent. on the capital cost. The Maharajah was confronted by the great famine of 1899-1900, soon after he was invested with powers; but he worked heart and soul for the relief of his people and considerably minimised their sufferings. Relief works and famine camps were started all over the land. Over 9,348,000 units were relieved on works, and more than 1,840,000 were fed gratuitously, the largest number ever given direct relief to; land revenue remission amounted to 4·7 lakhs; and a sum of Rs. 85,300 was granted as loans to agriculturists.

His Highness attended the Delhi Durbar of 1903, when he requested His Excellency the Viceroy to convey his loyal and respectful con-

gratulations to His Majesty the King-Emperor, and to assure His Majesty that he and his people were always ready to serve and fight for His Majesty on all occasions.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales (our King-Emperor), during his Indian tour of 1905-06, paid a visit to Bikanir, where, at the State banquet, in replying to the toast proposed by the Maharajah, His Royal Highness observed :—

I have been much struck by the fine soldier-like appearance of that force (Bikanir Camel Corps). It will give me much pleasure to tell the King-Emperor of the smart appearance of the men, most of whom wore the medals for China and Somaliland, and of the excellent condition of the camels. I shall assure His Majesty that he has every reason to be proud of Your Highness's contribution to the Imperial Service Troops, and also inform him of your further generous offer to augment it by the addition of half of your infantry.

We have always heard of your interesting city and how your great ancestors in times past won for themselves the proud and appropriate title of Lords of the Desert, but coming here, we realise how, through your enterprise and artistic knowledge, you have, as it were, raised from the desert a palace, beautiful in its architectural design and construction, and replete with every comfort which you have so hospitably placed at our disposal. The Princess and I are much gratified to learn that Your Highness proposes to commemorate our visit by erecting a building for a library, which will also contain the beautiful and heroic armoury of Bikanir. We heartily approve of Your Highness's suggestion, and I am proud to think that it is your wish to call it after me.

The Government, in recognition of the Maharajah's imperial services, able statesmanship, and devotion to the welfare of his subjects, conferred on him the Kaisar-i-Hind medal of the first class, and further admitted him to the exalted orders of both G.C.I.E., and K.C.S.I. He is an honorary Colonel in the Indian army, and he took an active part in the China Campaign. At the time of the visit to India of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales (now His Imperial Majesty King George V), he was appointed A.-D.-C. to the Prince. In 1911 the University of Cambridge conferred on His Highness the degree of LL.D. At the last Delhi Durbar, His Imperial Majesty was pleased to invest him with the *insignia* of a G. C. S. I. His Highness has promised a statue of Her Imperial Majesty to the new capital of India—Delhi. The State pays no tribute, and the Chief is entitled to a salute of seventeen guns.

The State contains about 2,110 towns and villages, and has a population of nearly six hundred thousand, of whom about 84 per cent. are Hindus, 11 per cent. Mahomedans, and 4 per cent Jains.

Up to 1897 there were hardly any works of irrigation in the State. In 1896-97 the Ghaggar Canals were constructed at a cost of 4·7 lakhs.

They irrigate about 18 square miles, and the gross income and working expenses amount to about Rs. 15,700 and 10,800 respectively.

Besides coal mining, salt is manufactured, fine red sandstone is quarried near Dalmera, and limestone and fuller's earth are excavated in several places. A copper mine, abandoned about the middle of the eighteenth century, is now being prospected by a company.

The Maharajah is assisted in the administration of the State by five Secretaries, each of whom is entrusted with certain departments; and there is a Council of five members, which is primarily a judicial body, but which is also consulted on important administrative matters. The State has its own Civil and Criminal courts, the judiciary being guided largely by enactments similar to those of British India. The Council is the highest appellate court, and, besides hearing appeal and revision cases, deals with all murder cases, submitting them with its opinion to the Maharajah, who alone can pass sentences of death. There are also courts of honorary magistrates at the capital. The revenue of the State is about thirty lakhs, and the expenditure nearly twenty-five lakhs. The Durbar is financially sound and is unencumbered.

Besides the Imperial Service Camel Corps, His Highness maintains an irregular local force of 380 cavalry, 500 infantry, and 38 artillery, at a cost of about 2·4 lakhs a year. There are ninety-four guns, of which thirty-three are serviceable. The Durbar has a police force of about 900, of whom 200 are mounted, mostly on camels. The State has one Central jail and two District jails. The jail manufactures are carpets, woollen fabrics, curtains, rope, &c.

Besides indigenous schools, thirty-eight other institutions are maintained by the Durbar. Education is free. Medical aid is afforded at thirteen hospitals and three dispensaries, at a cost of about Rs. 40,500 a year. Vaccination is also popular.

The full titles of the Maharajah are—Colonel His Highness the Maharajah Raj Rajeshwar Narendra Shiromani, Sri Maharajah Dhiraj Sir Ganga Singh Bahadur, G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E., LL. D., A.-D.-C. to H. I. M. the King-Emperor.

His Highness, who is young and active, has many years of useful life before him, and it may be expected that he will use his opportunities with honour to himself and benefit to his subjects.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SRI KISHAN SINGH SAHIB BAHADUR, MAHARAJAH OF BHARATPUR

THE Chiefs of Bharatpur in Rajputana, who are Jats of the Sinsinwar clan, are descended from Madan Pal, a Jadon Rajput, who is said to have been originally the ruler of Bayana and later on of the present State of Karauli. One of his descendants, Bal Chand, had two sons who were refused admission into the general class of Rajputs. Having no claims to any clan, they styled themselves Sinsinwar after their village Sinsini, which is eight miles south of Dig; and the present Chiefs of Bharatpur are their descendants.

Brijh, the founder of the State and a contemporary of Aurangzeb, was killed in battle while defending his capital, Sinsini, against the attack of an army sent by the Moghul Emperor. Another Sinsinwar obtained forty villages and made Thun his capital. The Jats of Sinsini and Thun acknowledged the seventh son of Brijh, named Churaman, as their Chief, and he had forts built at both the capitals, and also secured possession of Dig, Kumher and some other important places. Aided by the army of another Jat, Brijh plundered the country, which even resulted in the closing of the roads to Delhi and Agra.

In 1722 Badan Singh, a cousin of Churaman, was installed as ruler of Dig, on his consenting to pay a tribute to the Emperor at Delhi. Badan Singh resigned his powers to his energetic and intelligent son, Suraj Mal, during whose time the power of the Jats was at its height. He took possession from Khem Kharan, his rival, of the famous Fort of Bharatpur, long considered impregnable because of its tenacious clay walls,—the fort which successfully defied Lord Lake in 1805 and which was only finally brought down by British mining during the great siege of 1827—and made the place his capital. In 1761 he captured the Agra and Muttra Districts, the major portion of the territory now known as Alwar, and portions of Gurgaon and Rohtak. He was succeeded by his son, Jawahir Singh, who,

though wanting in the capacity of his father, was not deficient in valour. He made large additions to his territory, and spent most of his time in the palace at Agra, where he was murdered in 1768.

After Jawahir Singh, came Ratan Singh, who ruled only for nine months when he was succeeded by his minor son, Kesri Singh. There was discord and disunion in the State, which enabled the Mahrattas to expel the Jats from the east of the Jumna. In 1776 Ranjit Singh succeeded Kesri Singh. At the instance of the Emperor, Shah Alam II, Sindhia occupied the Bharatpur dominions, but restored them to the Chief at the special request of the aged Rani, widow of Suraj Mal. Thereafter, Ranjit Singh was loyal and faithful to the House of Sindhia, for which he was rewarded with a grant of three more districts. All these constituted the State of Bharatpur. Ranjit Singh concluded an offensive and defensive alliance with the British on the 29th September 1803. At the battle of Laswari in Alwar, Ranjit Singh took a prominent part, and his services were recognised by the grant of five additional districts. Contrary to his engagements and much to his misfortune, Ranjit Singh sided with Jaswant Rao Holkar in the war between the latter and the English. A fierce battle was fought, with disastrous results on both sides, and Ranjit Singh was obliged to sue for peace. He concluded a treaty with the English on the 17th April 1805, by which they resumed the five districts granted to him in 1803, and made him pay an indemnity of twenty lakhs, which they subsequently reduced to thirteen lakhs. They however confirmed him in the possession of the rest of his territories. He died in 1805, and his sons Randhir Singh (1805-23) and Baldeo Singh (1823-25), successively occupied the *gadi*.

Balwant Singh, son of Baldeo Singh, succeeded as a minor, but his cousin, Durjan Sal, seized him and kept him in confinement. Though the Resident at Delhi tried to support the claims of Balwant Singh, the Government of India directed that officer not to take any steps contrary to the wishes of the Chiefs and the people. Durjan Sal informed the British that he would abide by their decision, but at the same time collected an army, aided by the neighbouring Mahratta and Rajput States. The matter assumed alarming proportions, and the English were led to the necessity of thwarting the designs of Durjan Sal by placing Balwant Singh on the *musnad*.

The British Government recovered from the Bharatpur Durbar the cost of the war which amounted to Rs. 25,50,000. Balwant Singh was proclaimed ruler with his mother as regent under the superintendence of a Political Agent; but in September 1826, the Rani was removed, as she showed a disposition to intrigue, and a Council of Regency was formed.

Balwant Singh obtained full administrative powers in 1835, and when he died in 1853, he was succeeded by his infant son, Jaswant Singh. The Regency that controlled the affairs of the State during the minority of Balwant Singh was again established with a Council. In 1862 a sanad guaranteeing the right of adoption was granted to the Chief by the British Government. In March 1871, he was invested with full administrative powers. In 1877 the title of G. C. S. I. was conferred on him. In 1890 his personal salute was raised from seventeen to nineteen guns.

In 1873-74 a railway line was opened, and in 1879 an agreement was drawn up for the suppression of the manufacture of salt. In 1884 the Maharajah abolished all transit duties except those on liquor, opium and other intoxicants. In 1889-90 he raised an infantry and a cavalry regiment, and the latter has since developed into a transport corps to defend the Empire. Jaswant Singh died in 1893, when his son, Maharajah Ram Singh, ascended the *gadi*. But he abdicated in 1900, when his one year old son, Prince Kishan Singh, was recognised as chief with Dhau Bakshi Raghubir Singh Sahib, as guardian. On account of the minority of the present Maharajah, there is a Council to carry on the general administration of the State under the orders of the Political Agent.

The population of Bharatpur is 558,813, and the area 1982 square miles. The revenue of the State is a little over thirty lakhs, the British coin being the currency. There are nearly a hundred educational institutions, of which more than ninety are maintained by the State, and the rest by the Church Missionary Society. In the capital are located a High School, a Sanskrit school, and an Anglo-Vernacular school for the upper classes. There are also four schools for girls. Seven hospitals and ten dispensaries, including the Imperial Service and Jail hospitals, are maintained by the Durbar.

The army of the State consists of an Imperial Service Infantry of 652 men, and a transport corps comprising 350 carts, 600 mules and 368 men and followers. The local irregular force has about 2,200 men, of whom 513 are horsemen with 132 gunners. The strength of the police of all ranks is about 800. The Chief is entitled to a salute of seventeen guns. The full titles of the Maharajah are—His Highness the Maharajah Sri Brijendra Sawai Kishan Singh Bahadur, Bahadur-Jung, Maharajah of Bharatpur.

When the young Prince is called upon in due course to assume charge of the State from the Council of Regency, he will no doubt find himself the ruler of a well-ordered and prosperous principality endowed with all the facilities tending to peaceful and progressive administration.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SIR VYANKATESH RAMAN SINGH BAHADUR, G. C. S. I., MAHARAJAH OF REWA

REWA is the second largest Treaty State in the Baghelkhand Division of the Central India Agency. It has an area of 12,676 square miles, with a population of nearly a million and a quarter. The ancient capital of the State was Bandhogarh, situated to the south-east of Rewa. The State is divided into three sections—the central plateau having Upribar as its chief town, low lands (Tarihar) in the Teonthar Tahsil, and the hilly tract south of the Kaimur range. The Kaimur range, a branch of the Vindhya mountains, and the Maikala range on which the sacred village of Amarkantak is situated, are the two water-sheds in the State. The climate of Rewa is subject to extremes: in the hilly tracts the heat is oppressive, the severe cold season lasting only for a short time.

The Rulers of Rewa are Baghel Rajputs, claiming descent from the Solanki clan which held supremacy over Gujrat between the tenth and the thirteenth centuries. About the middle of the thirteenth century, Vyaghra Deo, brother of the Chief of Gujrat, got possession of the fort of Marpha, eighteen miles north-east of Kalinjar in Northern India. His son, Karan Deo, married a princess of Mandla and got as dowry the fort of Bandhogarh, which continued to be the chief city of the Baghel territories until it was brought to wreck by Akbar in 1597. In 1298 instigated by the Emperor, Alauddin, Ulugh Khan drove Karan Deo, the last of the Baghel rulers of Gujrat, from his dominions. A very large number of Baghels were forced to leave their country and migrate to Bandhogarh. The Baghels then slowly extended their holdings unnoticed by the rulers of Delhi. Ram Chandra was the Chief of Bandhogarh between 1555 and 1592, and he had a well-known musician, named Tan Sen. On hearing of the fame of Tan Sen, Akbar invited Ram Chandra to his court, but the latter did not comply with the wishes of the Emperor till 1584, when he was prevailed upon by his son, Birbhadra, to proceed to Delhi. Ram Chandra, whose

generosity passed into a proverb among his people, died in 1592, and he was succeeded by Birbhadra. He survived his elevation only for a short time, dying suddenly from the effects of a fall from his palanquin. The unexpected demise of the king and the succession of Vikramaditya, as a minor, produced a great panic. Akbar interfered and, after a protracted siege, demolished the fort in 1597. The Ruler of Orchha, Pahar Singh Bundela, drove away the Chief of Rewa, Anup Singh, who reigned from 1640 to 1660. Anup Singh proceeded to Delhi and represented his grievances to the Emperor, who ordered the restoration of the territories and raised Anup Singh to the rank of Seh-hazari and to the command of 3,000 cavalry.

In 1812 when Rajah Jai Singh was the Chief of Rewa, the Pindaris raided Mirzapur from Rewa territory. The British Government, suspecting that Rajah Jai Singh had connived at the raid, insisted on his entering into a treaty with them, by which he acknowledged their supremacy anv protection, and consented to bring to their notice for arbitration and dispute that might arise with his brother chiefs, and not to raise any objection to the British troops passing through his dominions or being stationed therein. Jai Singh was a ripe scholar and author of several works, and he encouraged men of learning. He had three sons, Viswanath Singh, Lakshman Singh of Madhogarh and Balbhadra Singh of Amarapatam. As Viswanath Singh had administrative experience during the lifetime of his father, he proved a very capable ruler. Himself a great scholar, he admired learning in others and liberally patronised it. After Viswanath Singh, came his son Raghuraj Singh, who was also endowed with a literary turn of mind.

Three years after Maharajah Raghuraj Singh came to the *gadi* the Mutiny broke out, when His Highness despatched a detachment of 2,000 men to preserve the peace in the adjoining territories. He protected the interests of the British in several other ways. After the Mutiny, he was rewarded with the Parganas of Sohagpur and Amarkantak that had been wrested from Rewa by the Mahrattas in the early part of the century. In 1863 His Highness granted lands to the East India Railway. In 1868 he removed all transit duties and abolished the system of leasing out revenues. To reform the administrative machinery of the State, he secured the services of Rajah Sir Dinkar Rao, K.C.S.I., the renowned Minister of Gwalior. In 1860 he was made a G.C.S.I. His Highness was present at the Agra Durbar of 1870, convened in honour of the Duke of Edinburgh. The financial condition of the State required immediate attention, and the Maharajah, therefore, solicited the Government of India to conduct the administration of the State. His request was complied with in 1875.

In 1876 His Highness attended the Durbar held at Delhi in honour of H.R.H. the then Prince of Wales (the late King-Emperor Edward VII). In 1877 at the Delhi Imperial Assemblage he was presented with a banner and medal, and his salute was raised by two guns. He died in 1880 when he was succeeded by Vyankatesh Raman Singh, who was a minor four years old. The young Prince received his early education privately under competent European and Indian tutors. In 1895 he was invested with full administrative powers, and two years later, the relief works he opened in connection with the famine elicited the warm appreciation of the Government of India, who conferred on him the distinction of G. C. S. I. In 1903 His Highness was present at the Delhi Durbar, where his camp "was one of the most elaborate in the whole of Delhi. It was lavishly equipped, and so profusely decorated with bunting and so modern in style, that a visitor might have imagined himself in a corner of the Paris Exhibition. The camp contained the whole of the large retinue which the Maharajah took with him consisting of about 800 men, 18 elephants and a large number of horses." In 1905, at Indore, His Highness was presented to their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales (now our Emperor and Empress). The Maharajah enjoys a salute of seventeen guns.

The Tons and the Son are the two rivers in the State. The Umaria coal mines are productive of large revenue to the Durbar, and the sandstones quarried from the Vindhya Hills are much used for building purposes. The population is nearly one million and a half, 77 per cent. being Hindus and 2 per cent. Mahomedans. Baghelkhandi is the prevailing language. The principal crops are rice, wheat, barley, gram, and bajra. As there are many large tanks and reservoirs, the State is well irrigated. There are extensive forests yielding a large revenue.

The State is made up of seven Tahsils. The Maharajah exercises first class powers and can also pass sentences of death. The revenue of Rewa is nearly thirty lakhs. There are two high schools affiliated to the Allahabad University, fifty-one village schools, and also two girls' schools. The army of the State consists of 1,140 infantry and 574 cavalry, with 13 guns. The police force numbers 622 men of all ranks. There are nearly twenty hospitals.

The Maharajah is still in the prime of life with a long record of good work already done for the State, and for many years to come the people of Rewa may continue to enjoy the fullest benefits from his long experience never-failing sympathy and great administrative skill.

HIS HIGHNESS THE NAWAB
HAJI SADIQ MUHAMMAD KHAN V,
NAWAB OF BAHAWALPUR

IT is said that the originators of the house of Bahawalpur in the Punjaub are the Abbasi Daudpotras claiming descent from the Abbasid Khalifs of Egypt. The Abbasi Daudpotras were originally residents of Sind, who declared themselves independent when the Durrani Empire was divided. The then Chief of Bahawalpur, Nawab Muhammad Bahawal Khan II, established a mint at his headquarters in 1802 under the orders of Shah Mahmud of Kabul. When the power of Ranjit Singh of the Punjaub was at its zenith, the Nawab repeatedly applied to the British for protection, but it was only in 1833 that they entered into a treaty with him, by which he was allowed to rule independently. When preparations for restoring Shah Shuja to the Afghan throne were in progress in 1838, the political relations between the Bahawalpur State and the British Government were again regulated by a fresh treaty.

When the first Afghan war broke out, the Nawab proved himself very useful to the British Government and afforded every facility for the marching of troops through his dominions, and gave them also the necessary supplies. In the Multan war of 1847-48 his co-operation with the British elicited warm appreciation. His services were recognised by the grant of the districts of Sabzalkot and Bhung, with a life-pension of one lakh. When he died there was a dispute concerning the succession. During his life-time he nominated his third son to succeed him, overlooking the claims of his eldest son. The third son ascended the *gadi*, but his elder brother deposed him and assumed charge of the State. The Nawab treated his subjects so cruelly that they rose in open rebellion, but he managed to put them down. When he died in March 1866, he was succeeded by his son, Nawab Sadiq Muhammad Khan IV, while yet a boy of four years. The State was in confusion and disorder, and it was therefore managed by the British Government during the minority of the

Nawab. In 1879 he was invested with full administrative powers. In the Afghan wars of 1878-80, the Nawab rendered great assistance to the British. His Highness furnished them with more than 20,000 camels, bullocks and ponies, and 2,800 swords, 500 infantry and 100 cavalry, mostly for guarding the frontiers. Lord Ripon, the Viceroy, visited Bahawalpur in 1880, when His Excellency presented His Highness with the insignia of a G.C.S.I. The Nawab died in 1899, when he was succeeded by his son, Nawab Muhammad Bahawal Khan V who was then fifteen years old.

The young Nawab studied in the Aitchison College, Lahore, for about four years, made rapid progress in his studies, and even passed the Entrance Examination of the Punjaub University. In May 1901, the Prince left the College to learn administrative work. On the 12th November 1903, H.E. Lord Curzon, in investing His Highness with full powers, observed :—

There are five duties that I enjoin upon you as you take up the task. Be loyal to your Sovereign, who is the ultimate source and guarantee of your powers. Regard the Government of India and the local Government under which you are immediately placed as your protectors and sponsors. Treat the Political Officer with whom you are brought into contact not as your tutor or mentor but as a counsellor and friend. Be just and considerate to the Nobles of your State. You owe a duty to them just as much as they to you. And lastly, never let a day pass without thinking of your people and praying to the Almighty God that you, who have so much, may do something for them who have so little. If these are the principles by which you regulate your conduct, your subjects and your friends will look upon this day, not as a *tamasha* that is forgotten as soon as it is over, but as the dawn of a bright and prosperous era for the State of Bahawalpur.

At the State banquet, His Excellency the Viceroy replied to the toast proposed by His Highness the Nawab, in the following terms :—

His Highness already enjoys two qualifications of no mean order. He is not without experience, and he possesses character. Since May of last year he has, as he told us this afternoon, practically been conducting the administration of his State, and has familiarised himself with the problems and duties that it involves. He has himself carried out the settlement of two districts, and has written a detailed report of his work, which I have seen. It gives me great pleasure to note these symptoms of his zeal and activity because they show that he does not intend to be a mere figure-head, and because I know how good a thing it is for a State that the Ruler should be personally cognisant of the condition of his subjects. I often wish that I had had some settlement experience myself ; for I am convinced that that is almost the only work in India that gives a real insight into the life and well being of the people.

Such a work as the Nawab has undertaken is good not only for the Chief, but also for the raiyats, who like to think that their ruler knows all about them, and also for the officials, who are cheered up by the recognition and encouragement of their superior.

I said that His Highness possessed character also. I believe from what I have heard, and it was confirmed by his speech this afternoon, that he has a high sense of responsibility, that he is painstaking and industrious, and that he means to do his duty to his people. If this is the spirit in which he approaches his task, and if he is willing at the commencement to profit by the counsel and authority of others, then I think that a bright future lies before him, and that as he gains in age and experience, he may become a genuine influence for good in his State.

During the minority of the Nawab the revenue of the State under the able management of British officers rose to twenty-four lakhs. There were marked improvements in almost all the departments. Such companies of the cavalry and infantry as were superfluous were disbanded and an Imperial Service camel corps was organised. He died in February 1907 at sea on his way back from a pilgrimage to Mecca. He was succeeded by his son, Nawab Haji Sadiq Muhammad Khan V, born on the 29th September 1904.

In February 1911, H. E. the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjaub opened the Khanpur-Chachran Railway. In this connection Moulvi Haji Rahim Baksh Bahadur, C. I. E, President of the Council, announced that the Durbar had another more costly project on hand, namely that of the perennial canal from the Sutlej, and that the Council had been able to accumulate the aggregate surplus of nearly seventy-five lakhs of rupees, which would be doubled before the Regency was over. His Honour replied that he knew the father as well as the grandfather of the present minor Nawab well, and assisted at their investiture When the late Nawab died it was decided to place fuller trust in Indian officers, and the Council of Regency was therefore composed mainly of the officials of the State without a British officer as Superintendent. His Honour was strongly of opinion that the experiment was a complete success. Before leaving the State, he laid the foundation of the new High School, and inspected the College and the Boarding house.

Bahawalpur is about 15,198 square miles in area with a population of 7,80,394 of whom more than 80 per cent. are Mahomedans. The country is watered by the Sutlej, the Chenab and the Indus. There are neither hills nor streams except the pools and backwaters of the three rivers. The annual rainfall seldom exceeds five inches. The climate in general is healthy. Forests cover an area of 412 square miles; but a

large portion is without any trees affording ample room for colonisation. Silk *lungis* (ornamental turbans) and *sufis* (silk cloth) are woven in Bahawalpur. Impure carbonate of soda which is manufactured on a large scale is said to be a lucrative industry. There are nine rice-husking mills in the State. The principal crops are wheat, rice, spiked millet, great millet and gram. There are no transit duties.

The major portion of the people speak Multani or Bahawalpuri. The other languages spoken are Machka Sindi and Marwari Rathi. The Jats are the principal land-owning tribes. The Aroras are the only commercial class.

Generally the Chief controls the affairs of the State, aided by a Council of eleven members with the Mushir-i-ala or Wazir as President. The Mushir-i-Mal (Revenue Minister) has general revenue control over the State. The Nazims, Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars work under his orders. The Sadr Adalat is the principal court presided over by a judge, commonly known as the Chief Judge, under whom work three District Judges, and five first class and three second class Munsiffs. All these officers attend also to registration work, the Chief Judge being the Chief Registrar, the District Judge, Registrar, and the Munsiffs, Sub-Registrars.

. There are sixteen municipalities in the State. The Imperial Service Silledar Camel Transport Corps consists of 855 men and 1,144 camels. There is also an Imperial Service (Camel) Mounted Rifle Company, with 169 officers, non-commissioned officers and men. The Nizam Infantry Regiment has on its rolls 492 men of all ranks, an orderly troop 103 strong, and an Imperial Service Reserve company of 80 men. There are also thirteen guns. The strength of the police is about 550. *Daries*, carpets, blankets and paper are manufactured in the jail at Bahawalpur. There are two hospitals and six outlying dispensaries in the State.

At Bahawalpur there are the Sadiq Egerton College, and the High School.The State further maintains seven Anglo-Vernacular Middle schools thirty-two Primary schools and six Mahomedan theological schools.

There is now a Council of Regency with a President, a Financial member, a Military member, two Revenue members and a Superintendent. The revenue of the State is about thirty lakhs.

The full titles of the Nawab are—His Highness Rukn-ud-Daula Nasarat-i-Jung ,Hafiz-ul-mulk Mukhlis-ud-Daula Nawab Haji Sadiq Muhammad Khan Bahadur V, Abbasi. The Nawab is entitled to a salute of seventeen guns.

During his minority the Prince has the advantage of a good training and education free from the evil influences of Indian Palaces, and it may be hoped that the people will derive the fullest benefit from his rule when well equipped for his work, he takes charge of the administration in due time.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAO SIR KHENGARJI BAHADUR II, G. C. I. E., RAO OF CUTCH

THE Cutch State, otherwise known as "The Sea-coast land," is under the political superintendence of the Governor of Bombay. The Great Rann in the north, the Little Rann in the east, the Gulf of Cutch in the south, and the Arabian sea in the west, separate the Cutch province from the Indian continent. The State has an area of 7616 square miles with a population of 512,479.

The modern history of Cutch begins from the fourteenth century, that is, from its conquest by the Sind tribe of Samma Rajputs. The Sammas that constituted the reigning family of Cutch were called Jadejas, who divided themselves into three branches and held the sovereignty of Cutch till about the middle of the sixteenth century. It was then that Khengar, one of their descendants, aided by the Mahomedan ruler of Ahmedabad, managed to obtain possession of the whole territory and placed himself at the head of the tribe. The King of Ahmedabad conferred on Khengar the distinction of Rao with the grant of Morvi in Kathiawar. Khengar had an uncle, named Jam Rawal, who was once the Chief of a portion of Cutch, and who fled to Kathiawar and established the State of Nawanagar, whose rulers are still known as the Jams. Rao Khengar paid no tribute to the King of Ahmednagar, but he was expected to be ready with 5,000 cavalry when wanted. His successor consented to give the pilgrims to Mecca a free passage and consequently the tribute originally demanded was remitted. Rayadhan, the Rao of Cutch in 1697, was succeeded by his third son, Pragji, who murdered his elder brother and occupied the *gadi*. With the object of pacifying the son of the murdered brother, he made him the Chief of Morvi, which, since then, has been in the enjoyment of his descendants. After 1718 the Viceroy of Gujrat often directed his arms against Cutch but without success; and the Chief of Cutch built a fort at Bhuj to repel their attacks. What with the

insanity of the Rao and the struggle of the rival parties, the disorder became all the greater, and this necessitated the Cutch Durbar in 1809 to seek the aid of the British. A treaty was made with the British in order to suppress piracy and prevent raids into Kathiawar, as they found it inexpedient to have anything to do with the internal affairs of the State. The Rao did not pay any regard to the treaty, and remonstrances were of no avail. In consequence a British army advanced into Cutch in 1815, and another treaty was concluded, by which the British Government undertook to restore order, provided that Cutch ceded the fort of Anjar and twenty-three other villages as compensation. When tranquillity was restored the British Government made a remission of all arrears due to them from the Cutch State, and the Rao continued to be a faithful ally. But the Jadeja Chiefs, who could not brook his profligacy and cruelty, applied to the British for help and redress. The Rao was ready for war, and the English marched against him and seized Bhuj. They deposed the Chief and accepted the nomination by the Jadejas of another ruler, Desalji, who was only a minor. A regency was formed consisting of the British Resident and a few Chiefs. The British maintained order without interfering in the internal administration, and placed the Jadeja Chiefs firmly in their holdings. In 1822 the East India Company restored to Cutch the district of Anjar and accepted in return an annual payment. Rao Desalji II attained majority in 1834, when the Regency was abolished. During his re'gime, he put down infanticide, *sati* and slavery. His administration, which lasted for more than forty years, was highly beneficial to the people.

Rao Desalji II was succeeded by Maharao Pragmalji, who ruled over the State from 1860 to 1875. His Highness codified the laws on British lines, and took special interest in the matter of education. All the other departments of the State also received his careful attention. In 1871 the Government of India recognised his services by conferring on him the title of K. C. S. I. None of the former rulers of Cutch had ever travelled beyond the province, but His Highness visited Bombay thrice. The first time he went there was in 1870 to welcome H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh. The next year he was there to participate in a Chapter of the Star of India; his third visit was in 1875 to pay his homage to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales (afterwards King-Emperor Edward VII). In commemoration of the visit of Their Royal Highnesses, the Maharao founded the Albert Edward Breakwater and Harbour Works at Mandvi, at a cost of twelve lakhs, and the Alfred High School at Bhuj, and endowed two scholarships in the Elphinstone College and two more in Sir Jamsetji Jijibhai's School of

Arts, Bombay. Besides His Highness's palace buildings which were erected by him, his other public works are the Pragsar Tank, a causeway in the large Hamirsar Tank, a jail, a hospital, stables for horses and elephants, and schools at Bhuj and Mandvi. In the latter part of his rule, he brought in cotton gins, established screw presses, and constructed the Bhuj-Mandvi road. He was a great hunter and many wild animals fell to his gun. He died in 1876, leaving behind him a son, the present Chief.

H. H. the Maharao Khengarji Bahadur II, who was born on the 16th August 1866, was hardly ten years old, at the time of his father's death, but as the then Political Agent spoke of him, he was "a most promising boy of ten." Splendid arrangements were made for his education, and men of tried abilities, such as Mr. Chhotalal Tewakram and Captain J. W. Wray, were appointed tutors. In the year of his accession to the *gadi*, Sir Richmond Temple, the Governor of Bombay, visited Cutch, when he was greatly delighted with the progress the young Prince had made in his studies, and at the ease and fluency with which he spoke English. When he was barely fifteen years old, he joined the Council of Administration, and the formal installation of His Highness as the Rao of Cutch took place on the 14th November 1884 when he attained his majority. Sir James Fergusson, the Governor of Bombay, then held a grand Durbar, in which His Excellency observed :—

> I venture to augur very favourably of His Highness's reign. His natural intelligence has been developed, his mind has been instructed by a liberal education, he possesses a complete knowledge of the circumstances and wants of his country and people, but more hopeful still are his disposition and character. The frequent opportunities which I have had of judging of them, as well as the unanimous testimony of those who have known him from childhood, convince me that he possesses a kind heart as well as a clear judgment, and cherishes a resolute adherence to the call of duty. These qualities are not unknown to his subjects, and they cannot fail to deepen their hereditary attachment to his family and person, which is so remarkable. It may indeed actuate him to deserve and reciprocate it. I doubt not that it will. I shall deem myself very ignorant of character if His Highness does not realise our best anticipations.

On the 2nd March 1885, the Government of India conferred on His Highness the hereditary distinction of *Sawai Bahadur*. On the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen-Empress Victoria, the Maharao went to England as a representative of the Bombay Presidency While there, Her Gracious Majesty conferred on His Highness the distinction of G. C. I. E. He evinces great interest in education, especially female education. He has founded a Sanskrit school, and the Fergusson

Museum and Library at Bhuj. He gives a number of scholarships to deserving young men to prosecute their studies in the higher branches of learning in India, England and America. The Maharao has endowed a scholarship for Cutch girls studying in the Grant Medical College, Bombay, and also for those attending the Training College at Ahmedabad or Rajkot. There are also State scholarships for the female assistant-teachers of the local school, and one scholarship for the girls receiving education in the Poona High School. His Highness has most graciously endowed many more scholarships for Cutchis to enable them to learn arts, sciences, navigation, agriculture, &c., whether in India, Europe, or America.

At the State banquet held at Cutch on the 31st October 1900, H. E. Lord Curzon, in proposing the health of His Highness the Rao of Cutch, said :—

In the two speeches to which we have just listened, and to the second of which I am now called upon to reply, His Highness the Rao has shown that to his other accomplishments he adds that of being a talented and graceful speaker.

As I advanced further into the interior I could not fail to be struck by the thriving and healthy appearance of the people. I did not see a single emaciated form, I observed no shrunken features, and when I remembered that this country had been sorely afflicted by drought during the past year, and that, only two years ago, the plague was so bad that it is said to have carried off 10,000 persons, I thought that what I saw spoke well for the natural vigour and the recuperative power of the people ; but I thought that it spoke even better for the generosity and patriotism of the Chief, who spent from his own resources over twenty lakhs of rupees upon relief works for the employment of his subjects, and who thereby showed himself what it is the highest ambition of any ruler to be, namely, the saviour of his people. When, therefore, His Highness pays me the compliment, as he has done, of a flattering reference to the famine administration of the Government of India during the past year, I feel at liberty to return him the compliment and to say that we could desire no better tribute to the success of our own system than that it has found so worthy a disciple.

Since His Highness's accession to the *gadi*, the State has made vast improvements, chiefly in regard to the extension of roads, the construction of new buildings, and the renewal of old works. As the rainfall is limited and scanty, His Highness pays particular attention to the improvement of well-irrigation. During His Highness's régime considerable extent of waste land has been brought under cultivation.

For administrative purposes the State is divided into eight districts. The Varishta Adalat has full civil and criminal jurisdiction and also passes

sentences of death or of transportation for life. Sentences of and above fourteen years' imprisonment require the confirmation of the Rao. There are fifty-three civil and forty-five criminal courts. The Jadeja court is presided over by the Naib Dewan, and has a bench of four Jadeja noblemen. It hears civil and criminal cases from the estates of the guarantee holders.

The revenue of the State is nearly forty lakhs, of which nineteen lakhs go to the Durbar and the rest to the Zamindars and others. There are 137 Bhayad Chiefs, and the Jadeja tribe numbers 16,000. The former are Rajput nobles forming the brotherhood of the Rao. They have to supply troops to the Durbar whenever necessary, and are granted sufficient landed estates for their maintenance. The revenue from their estates amounts to nearly seventeen lakhs. Some of them are empowered to try civil and criminal cases.

The State pays a subsidy of two lakhs for the maintenance of the British troops stationed at Bhuj. The army of the State comprises 254 cavalry and 853 infantry with 281 Arabs. The police force numbers 244 mounted and 572 ordinary men. There are twelve jails. The State maintains one High school, six Anglo-Vernacular schools, nearly a hundred primary schools, fourteen girls' schools, ten night schools, one school of arts, and one Sanskrit school. The Durbar gives about a hundred scholarships, of which more than fifty are for girls. Medical aid is given in eleven hospitals and dispensaries.

Bhuj, the capital of the State, is at the base of a fortified hill. There are at Bhuj a post office, a hospital, a dispensary, a high school and a library, besides many archæological monuments. Cutch is known for its beautiful embroidery and silver-work. There are also manufactured fine silk and cotton goods.

The people of Cutch talk Kachchhi (Cutchi) and Gujarati, the former being a spoken dialect and the latter a written language. As the major portion of the soil is sandy, and easily tilled, more than 4,000 square miles are under cultivation. Wheat and barley of poor quality, and also cotton are cultivated, besides the ordinary varieties of millet and pulse, and a little garden produce. The mineral products consist of iron, coal, alum and tough millstones.

The full titles of the Maharao are—His Highness the Maharao Shri Mirza Rajah Sawai Sir Khengarji Bahadur II, G. C. I. E., Rao of Cutch. He is entitled to a salute of seventeen guns.

The favourable situation of Cutch on the sea-coast, its settled and progressive administration, and its latent commercial resources promise a prosperous future for the State.

HIS HIGHNESS THE NAWAB SIR MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM ALI KHAN BAHADUR, G. C. I. E., NAWAB OF TONK

TONK is the only Mahomedan State in the Hindu stronghold of Rajputana. It is situated partly in Rajputana and partly in Central India, and covers an area of 2,553 square miles. The country is hilly and wooded while parts of it are flat and low. A portion of it constitutes a high table-land. There are two rivers in it, the Banas and the Parbati. Its climate, though generally dry and healthy, is subject to malaria during and after the rains. The average rainfall is about twenty-six inches. The population of the State is 303,181 scattered in about 1,294 towns and villages. The Hindus number 82 per cent. of the population, the Mahomedans 15 per cent., and the Jains 3 per cent. The normal annual revenue of the State is a little over eleven lakhs and the ordinary expenditure about nine lakhs.

The Nawab of Tonk belongs to the Buner tribe of the Pathan community in Afghanistan. During the time of the Moghul Emperor, Muhammad Shah Ghazi, one Taleh Khan migrated into India, and took service with a distinguished Rohilla, Ali Muhammad Khan. His grandson, Amir Khan, the great Pindari Chieftain, founded the Tonk State. He was born in 1768. The disruption of the Moghul Empire was going on apace, and the times were favourable for the growth and prosperity of military adventurers. Amir Khan, availing himself of the opportunity, gathered men about him, and became a petty mercenary leader. His power and fortune rose so quickly that we find him in 1798 the commander of a large and independent army in the service of Jaswant Rao Holkar. The understanding between Amir Khan and Holkar was that they should share equally all their future plunder and conquest; and Amir Khan served under Holkar in all his wars against Sindhia, the Peshwa, and the British. In 1798 Amir Khan received as his share the district of

Sironj. To this he added Tonk and Pirawa in 1806, Nimbahera in 1809, and Chhabra in 1816.

When the British occupied Malwa, Amir Khan sought the friendship of the British, who concluded a treaty with him in 1817, by which he agreed to give up his predatory habits and to reduce his army. In return he was allowed to retain his possessions. He was, however, not countenanced in his retention of the tracts fraudulently obtained by him from the Rajputs. The British presented him with the fort and Pargana of Rampura, now called Aligarh, as a free grant, and gave him a loan of three lakhs of rupees, which was subsequently remitted.

Nawab Wazir Muhammad Khan succeeded Amir Khan in 1834. He remained staunch to the British during the great Indian Mutiny, and easily repulsed an attack on his State by the Nawab of Banda and Tantia Topi. In recognition of his loyalty and services, his salute was raised from fifteen to seventeen guns, and in 1862 a sanad was granted him guaranteeing succession to his family according to Mahomedan Law in case of failure of natural heirs. He died in 1864.

The next Nawab, Muhammad Ali Khan, was deposed in 1867 on account of mal-administration, and his son, Muhammad Ibrahim 'Ali Khan, the present ruler, born in 1848, was placed on the *masnud*. For two years the State was administered by a Council of Regency, presided over by a British Officer. In 1870 the Nawab was entrusted with full powers. His Highness was granted a personal salute of seventeen guns in 1887, and the next year it was declared hereditary. In the famine of 1868, the Durbar incurred an expenditure of two lakhs of rupees towards relief measures; and an equal amount was remitted in land revenue. In 1896 about 4,700 famine-stricken people were daily relieved in poor houses or on works. During the great famine of 1899-1900, the State spent about eight lakhs and a half. The Nawab carries on the administration, assisted by a Council of four members. The post of Minister was abolished in 1903. In 1890 the distinction of G. C. I. E. was conferred upon His Highness.

There are Civil and Criminal Courts in the State, over which the appellate court at the capital exercises jurisdiction; appeals from the decisions of the appellate court lie to the Council and the Nawab, and the latter alone can pass sentences of death.

The State has a currency of its own in the Tonk and Aligarh districts. The Tonk rupee now exchanges for thirteen or fourteen British annas, the rate varying daily. In the other parts of the State the British rupee is accepted as legal tender.

The military force consists of 443 cavalry, 243 artillery, and 1,046 infantry including the fort garrisons. 74 out of 82 guns are said to be serviceable. The police force numbers about 850 of all ranks, and costs the State Rs. 50,000 a year. There is a central jail at the capital, besides jails at the district headquarters.

The State maintains fifteen educational institutions, ten for boys and five for girls. There are three hospitals at the capital, and five dispensaries at the headquarters of the districts, maintained at an annual cost of about Rs. 13,000.

The people live chiefly by agriculture. The cotton industry gives occupation to 5 per cent., whilst 10 per cent. work in leather, horn and bones. The important crops are jowar, wheat, gram, maize, cotton and poppy. Wells constitute the chief source of irrigation. The forests cover an area of 106 square miles. Teak and ebony and some sandalwood trees are found. The sandstone quarries produce excellent slabs of stones for building purposes. All over the State good cotton cloth is woven, but the best kinds are had only in Tonk and Sironj. Felt rugs and saddle-cloths are prepared in Tonk, and ordinary plated utensils in Nimbahera. There are six Imperial post offices and four telegraph offices.

The land tenures in the State are divided into four kinds, *jaghir*, *istimirari*, *muafi* and *khalsa*. The estates coming under the first three of these tenures occupy an area of nearly 800 square miles, or 30 per cent. of the total area of the State. The members of the ruling family form the major portion of the jaghirdars, who, in some cases, pay a tribute of two annas and a half on every rupee they collect. Such of the jaghirdars as are not related to the Chief, pay a succession fee called *nazarana*. None of them render any service; but, in times of necessity, they are expected to assist the Nawab. Istimirardars pay quit-rent and *nazarana*, and also render service. *Muafi* lands are given away as a reward or in charity, and the holders give annually a fixed sum, known as *salana*. The *Khalsa* is ryotwari; the cultivator remits his kist direct to the State. The revenue is collected in cash.

The full titles of the Nawab are—His Highness Amin-ud-daula Wazir-ul-mulk Sir Muhammad Ibrahim Ali Khan Bahadur, Saulat Jang, G. C. I. E., Nawab of Tonk.

It may be hoped that under the present settled administration Tonk will become a progressive and flourishing State in the near future.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAO RAJAH SIR RAGHUBIR SINGHJI BAHADUR, K. C. S. I., G. C. I. E., G. C. V. O., MAHARAO RAJAH OF BUNDI

THE Bundi State, lying in the south-east of Rajputana, has an area of 2,220 square miles. The country possesses certain remarkable physical features. It is traversed by a double row of hills passing from the south-west to the north-east and dividing the State into two equal portions which are inaccessible to each other, except at four places. The Chambal runs along the whole of the southern and eastern boundaries of the State. Its tributary, the Mej, rising in Mewar and entering the Bundi State, flows through the barrier of hills, crossing it at its centre, and runs the remaining half of its course along the other side of the rocky barrier, thereby draining the northern and southern portions of the State. The climate is fairly healthy, but fever and rheumatism prevail during and after the rains. The annual rainfall averages about twenty inches.

The famous clan of Chauhan Rajputs is divided into various septs, of which the Hara sept claims as its head the Chief of Bundi. The Chauhan Rajputs, emigrating from Northern India, set up their rule at Sambhar and Ajmer, and subsequently acquired Delhi. In 1192 Mahomed Ghori defeated and killed Prithvi Raj, the last of the Chauhan rulers of Delhi. In the tenth century one Lachhman Raj or Lakhan founded a kingdom at Nadol; and after two hundred years, one of his descendants, Manik Rai II, migrated to the south-east of Mewar. The sixth in descent from Manik Rai II was Har Raj, from whom the sept derived its name Hara, and the country occupied by them was known as Haraoti. About 1342 Deoraj, the second chief after Har Raj, founded the State of Bundi.

During the whole of the fifteenth century Bundi was engaged in constant warfare with Mewar and with the Sultan of Mandu, who ruled in Malwa; but in all its vicissitudes it maintained its independence. In 1554 Rao Surjun broke away from his vassalage to the Rana of Udaipur by handing over Ranthambhor to Akbar, though he held it on behalf of the

Rana ; and thus the Haras began their alliance with the Mahomedan Emperors. In 1569 Akbar conferred upon the Chief the government of fifty-two districts including Benares, the command of a force of 2,000, and the title of Rao Rajah. The Haraoti was split up into two independent divisions, the Bundi and Kotah States. In the early part of the seventeenth century, Rao Rajah Ratan Singh, a successor of Surjun, gave Kotah and its dependencies in jaghir to his son, Madho Singh. When Khurram revolted against his father, the Emperor Jahangir, the Chief of Bundi and his son helped the imperial army. In return for this service Madho Singh obtained Kotah as a crown grant from the Emperor, while the Rao Rajah of Bundi was rewarded with the addition of Burhanpur to his State.

The Chiefs of Bundi took one side or the other in the struggle for empire, and gained or lost as their side triumphed or failed. Rajah Chhatarsal, the successor of Ratan Singh, who took the side of Dara against Aurangzeb, was defeated and killed. In 1707 in the struggle for empire that followed the death of Aurangzeb, Rajah Budh Singh helped Shah Alam to the throne, for which he was rewarded with the title of Maharao Rajah. However, Budh Singh had to fight with Jaipur, in which he was overthrown and driven into exile, where he died. With the assistance of Malhar Rao Holkar, his son, Umed Singh, recovered Bundi, but at the cost of the district of Patan, which he was obliged to hand over to Holkar. There is an old saying current in Rajput land that, "the Rao and the Rana could never meet at the *ahaira* or spring-hunt without death ensuing." There were only two such unfortunate instances when the Rao and the Rana met. In 1531 Rao Suraj Mal and Rana Ratan Singh went out shooting and killed each other. In 1773 Ajit Singh, son of Umed Singh, killed Rana Ari Singh while hunting. Bishan Singh succeeded Ajit Singh and, by helping Colonel Monson against Holkar, brought upon himself the bitter enmity of the Mahrattas and the Pindaris, who frequently attacked and plundered his State, and collected chauth from him.

The ravages of the Mahrattas were brought to an end when Bundi concluded a treaty with the British in 1818, by which the State was taken under their suzerainty on payment of a tribute, which now stands at Rs. 1,20,000 a year. Bishan Singh was succeeded by his son Ram Singh in 1821. During the great Indian Mutiny, Ram Singh remained neutral. Throughout his long reign of sixty-eight years, he led the life of a conservative and chivalrous Rajput prince. His upright conduct made him popular, and he died in 1889 greatly mourned by his subjects.

His Highness the Maharao Rajah Ram Singh was succeeded by his son, Raghubhir Singh, who was born in 1868. In 1890 the young Maharao was invested with full administrative powers. During the famin

of 1899-1900 the Durbar relieved more than three million units on works, maintained over seven hundred thousands of people in poor houses, and spent nearly four lakhs of rupees, besides granting land revenue remissions to the same amount.

At the State banquet held in November 1902, H. E. the Viceroy, Lord Curzon, said :—

Nearly eighty years ago, in 1828, Mr. John Adam, while officiating as Governor-General pending the arrival in India of Lord Amherst, paid a visit to Bundi and was received with great honour by the then Maharao Rajah, as the representative of the British crown. Perhaps the fact which the Maharao has mentioned, namely, that the State is so far from the railway, is the real explanation why no Governor-General has been to Bundi since those days. It gives me much pleasure to be the first to break this long spell of absence and to see the Chief of this old-world and conservative State in the picturesque surroundings of his ancestral home. Even the most out-of-the-way places are now brought into contact with civilisation, and parts of India hitherto isolated and remote are being drawn together by forces which none can resist. For instance, the late famine in 1899-1900, which hit Bundi very hard, and for his services in connection with which I had the gratification of recommending the Maharao Rajah for a G. C. I. E. in 1901, has taught the State the advantages of a railway, and His Highness pointed out to me yesterday what he hopes will be the site of the Bundi station on the future Baran-Marwar line.

The first time His Highness went in for western medical help was when he was afflicted with a dangerous illness in the middle of 1911. This made quite a sensation in the State and provoked a great deal of public comment.

His Highness the Maharao was made a K.C.S.I. in 1897, a K.C.I.E. in 1894, and a G.C.I.E. in 1901. On the 4th January 1912, His Majesty the King-Emperor was pleased to confer on His Highness the distinction of G. C. V. O. at the Royal Court held in Calcutta. The Maharao is entitled to a salute of seventeen guns.

On the 24th December 1911, Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, attended by her *suite*, left Ajmer for Bundi. The Maharao met Her Majesty six miles in advance of Bundi and attended on her to the Imperial Camp. The following morning he drove with Her Majesty's *suite* in attendance to the Fort and Palace and had the honour of conducting Her Majesty. Thence the Queen-Empress proceeded by motor-car, still attended by the Maharao to the Sar Baugh. Shikar Burj, and Phul Sagar.

The population of the State is 218,730 scattered in about 819 towns and villages. "The people still live and move and have their being as in bygone centuries". The marvel of Bundi is the Palace Fort which towers above the town, built up in a series of overhanging terraces against the face of a rock. The grim old walls of the fort and city are still intact, climbing up the side of a steep and often well-wooded gorge to the crest of a high range of hills. Four stately gateways, north and south, and east and west, pierce the crenellated walls above, which surround the city. Once inside the gate, there is no vestige of foreign influence of any sort.

The administration is carried on by the Maharao Rajah with a Council of five members. The State has civil and criminal jurisdiction. The Council is the highest court, and, when presided over by the Maharao Rajah, it can inflict the punishment of death. The Chehra Shahi rupee, which is the sole legal tender, exchanges for thirteen and a quarter British annas. The revenue of the State is nearly six lakhs.

The Durbar maintains a regular army of 350 (100 cavalry, 200 infantry, and 50 artillerymen) with 48 guns and 400 irregular infantry. Education is backward, the State possessing only two schools, a High school at the capital and a vernacular school at Naenwa, costing Rs. 3,000 a year.

The ruling house of Bundi has ever been known for its loyalty and allegiance to the British Government which, in the words of Tod, "may always reckon on its devotion—strong hands and grateful hearts which will court death in our behalf with the same indomitable spirit that has been exemplified in days gone by."

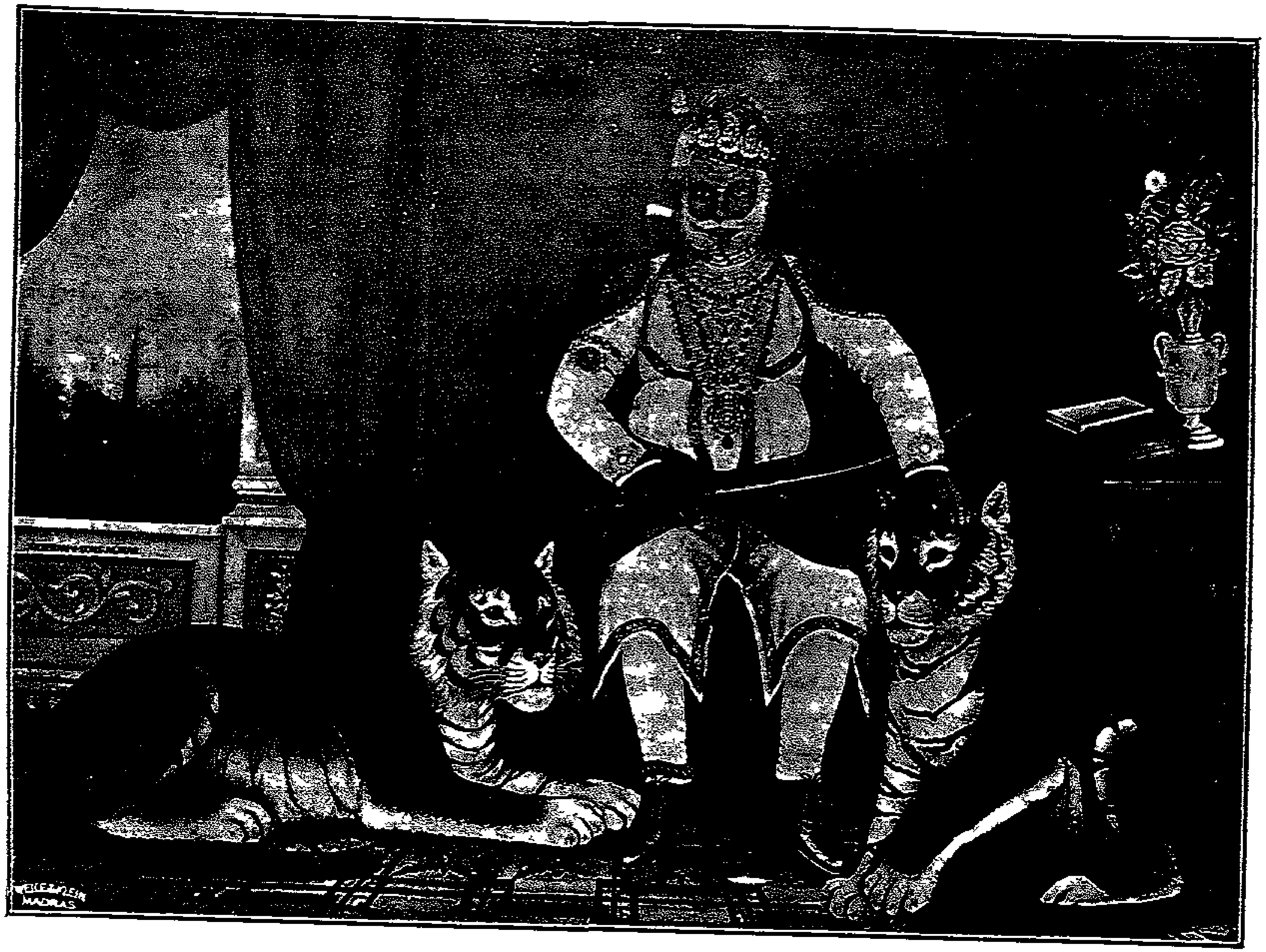
Though highly conservative and full of old-world ideas, Bundi is a picturesque little State whose people lead a happy and contented life under the parental care of the Maharao Rajah.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SIR BHANWAR PAL DEO BAHADUR, G. C. I. E., MAHARAJAH OF KARAULI

THE early history of the ruling family of Karauli is not available as no written account has been preserved since the time of Maharajah Bijey Pal. Tradition has it that Yadu was the Rajah of Muttra and that Jindra Pal, one of his sons, transferred his capital to Biana (now in Bharatpur territory). He was succeeded by his son and grandson in their turn, and the latter built a massive and almost impregnable fort at Biana in 995 A. D. In 1327 one of his successors, Maharajah Arjun Deo, obtained the Subahdarship of Nindar. Within the next twenty-one years the surrounding places came under his authority, and the twenty-four parganas of Sir Muttra became very populous, and the city of Karauli was founded in 1348. It is said that one day he was out shooting and, finding a lamb keeping a tiger (wolf) at bay, selected the site for his principality and called it after the local god Kalyanji, which has since been corrupted into Karauli.

Passing over several generations, we come to Maharajah Gopal Das, who ruled from 1533 to 1569. He was sent by Akbar against Daud Khan to Daulatabad and, on returning successful, he was awarded *Ranjit-nagarah* (which is still at Karauli) and the Killadarship of Ajmer. There is a tradition that, when Akbar put up the fort of Agra, its foundations were repeatedly washed away by the waters of the Jamna until, at the Emperor's request, Gopal Das laid a new foundation. It was he that built the fort of Bahadurpur. Maharajah Dharam Pal, the sixth of the successors of Gopal Das, reduced to submission the turbulent Meenas and Gujars that lived in the vicinity of Karauli, and made Karauli his capital. He died in 1665. The present Ruling Chief is a descendant of Maharajah Dharam Pal.

In 1724 Maharajah Gopal Singh ascended the *gadi* while yet a child. During his time, the masonry wall round the city, Gopal Mandir (Dewan-



H. H. THE MAHARAJAH OF KARAULI

i-Am in 1748), the new temple of Kalyanji, and the temple dedicated to Madan Mohanji, were built. His sister was married to Maharajah Jai Singh of Jaipur.

The Chiefs of Bharatpur are regarded as the scions of this family, being descended from one of the brothers of Maharajah Dharam Pal; and hence the two families have generally been friendly.

Maharajah Gopal Singh gave the parganas of Sir Muttra to Rajah Suraj Mal of Bharatpur as he was in alliance with him. He conquered the fort of Sabalgarh and carried his flag up to a few miles from Gwalior, and left the fort in charge of Ima Muddin in recogniton of the bravery shown by him in the campaigns of Central India. Sheopur, Bijeypur, and Narwar were also in his possession.

In 1753 he attended the Moghul Court and, for his bravery and good services, obtained the "Mahi Moratib," the fish insignia, and a high place at the Moghul Court. The buildings of his time at Karauli remind us of the Mahomedan architecture of Delhi. A cenotaph of exquisite beauty was erected in his memory. Even after his death, he was worshipped as a protector of the city. He died in 1757.

Manik Pal was the sixth Maharajah who ruled from 1772 to 1804. He was succeeded by his younger brother, Harbaksh Pal, in 1804, who was one of the first class nobles of the Moghul Court. On the 9th November 1817, the first treaty with the British Government was concluded, by which the State came under their protection. The Maharajah died in 1837.

Maharajah Pratap Pal ruled from 1837 to 1850. He got his daughter married to the Chief of Kotah. His days were very miserable owing to local dissensions, which continued till the rule of his successor, Maharajah Narsingh Pal, when Lieutenant Monk Mason interfered and restored order with the help of an English force.

Maharajah Madan Pal was a most faithful ally of the British. His loyalty during the Mutiny of 1857, when gangs of robbers and mutineers carried devastation into Rajputana and harassed other Chiefs, was remarkable. The Maharajah preserved peace and order in his own territory and relieved the wants of others and thus did yeoman service at that critical juncture. On the 19th May 1857, His Honour Sir John Russell Colvin, the Lieutenant-Governor of Agra, requested the Chief to take precautionary measures against the movements of the rebels. The Maharajah forthwith sent a detachment, 900 strong, to help the British in the Agra Fort and in this way displayed his zeal and devotion to their cause.

The troops acquitted themselves well and established the reputation of the Rajput arms. The Karauli army humiliated the tenants of Farak

and Shamsabad of the Agra district, and the dues to the British Government were fully realised. As a reward for their good services, a promise of Rs. 25,000 per month to the State was made by the officers concerned on behalf of the British Government. The Governor-General appreciated the valuable assistance rendered by the Karauli Durbar, and gracefully recognised their services in a Kharita, dated 5th June 1857.

A proclamation was made throughout the territory against harbouring, aiding, abetting, or, in any way, helping, directly or indirectly, any of the insurgents ; even conniving at their movements was rendered penal. The Lieutenant-Governor eulogised the Chief for his prompt action and foresight in a Kharita, dated 9th June 1857. Official intimation of all the measures adopted and steps taken to root out the rebellion was given to the Lieutenant-Governor, Members of the Sadr Board of Agra, the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, Sir Henry Lawrence, Chief Commissioner of Oudh, and Captain Mason, Resident in Jodhpur, all of whom acknowledged the valuable services of the Karauli Durbar. The Lieutenant-Governor's wishes, contained in a Kharita of the 20th June 1857, to stamp out the disloyal hordes passing through the territory and to conduct the faithful troops safely to their respective destinations, were carried out most faithfully.

A gang of rebels passed by Hindaun (Jaipur) on the borders of the Karauli territory, and the leader, Nawab Wazir Mahomed Khan, with a few horses, occupied the hills in those parts. He was, however, attacked and killed by the Karauli troops and some forty of his followers were taken prisoners. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor who was duly informed of the result of the encounter, highly appreciated the courage and success of the Karauli troops. The prisoners with their arms were then made over to the English.

In the meantime the Kotah troops swerved from their loyalty and inconsiderately murdered some British officers, and the opportune help rendered to the English by the Karauli Durbar at this time elicited the warm appreciation of the Lieutenant-Governor of Agra. The victors declined on moral grounds to accept anything in the shape of reward from the Chief of Kotah who was restored to his authority. The Karauli Chief showed his munificence by amply rewarding the services of his forces in cash and in kind. Thus the Maharajah's voluntary work of relief and his loyalty stand unparalleled and serve as an excellent example for others to copy.

In June 1858, a band of mutineers coming from Kalpi carried fire and sword into Sindhia's territory, and the English sent their forces to exterminate them. As only the Chambal river separates the two States of

Gwalior and Karauli, the Karauli Chief, with a prudent foresight, sent his brother with a detachment to guard the landing places on the Chambal, five in number, and would have proceeded further to help the British in the Gwalior territory, had not the Sadr Board assured him in their letter, dated the 20th June 1858, that the steps taken already by the Karauli Durbar in guarding the fords against the runaways were all that was then needed. The renown thus achieved by Karauli during the Mutiny was very great.

Further, a detachment was sent to watch the movements of the insurgents that side. They had one evening touched the jungle near Gurda in the Karauli territory, but the vigilant eye of the outposts was upon them, and on the approach of the State forces they skulked away and, under cover of the darkness of the night, precipitately fled for their lives.

In addition to this a small number of armed men were sent to protect Seth Lakhmi Chand of Muttra against the depredation and plunder of the insurgents, and this object was fully achieved. The Seth with his vast wealth made good his escape. On the 2nd December 1859, during the viceroyalty of Lord Canning, a robe of honour of the value of Rs. 20,000 was bestowed upon His Highness the Maharajah Madan Palji by the British Government. All the debts due from him to the Government were remitted, and a salute of seventeen guns was permanently granted. The Governor-General in the open Durbar of 1859 publicly thanked the Maharajah in very warm terms, firstly, for his unflinching zeal and loyalty towards the British Government throughout the time of the Mutiny ; secondly, for issuing a notification on his behalf throughout the Karauli territory enjoining on his subjects loyalty to the British cause ; thirdly, for despatching forces into the British territory to restore peace and to strengthen the hands of the British Government ; and lastly, for rendering assistance to the Maharao of Kotah at such a crisis. In 1862 a sanad guaranteeing the privilege of adoption to the rulers of this State was granted.

In 1866 His Highness was invested with the insignia of G. C. S. I., when H. E. the Viceroy eulogised His Highness for his loyalty and fidelity during the Mutiny and said that in 1857 while the other Chiefs who were in duty bound to assist the British Government in every way lacked in their allegiance and failed in the performance of their lawful obligations and duties, Maharajah Madan Pal did not waver at all, but, with great alacrity, took a leading part in subduing the rebels and co-operated heart and soul with the British forces.

On Maharajah Madan Pal's death, Maharajah Lachhman Pal, the Rao of Haroti, succeeded but survived him only a few weeks. Then Maha-

rajah Jey Singh Pal and Maharajah Arjun Pal came in succession, and they were succeeded by the present Chief. Since the accession of Maharajah Lachhman Pal to the *gadi*, the Rao of Haroti is looked upon as the heir-apparent in case of failure of direct descent.

His Highness the Maharajah Dhiraj Maharaj Sir Bhanwar Pal Deo Bahadur, Yadukul Chandra Bhal, G. C. I. E., Maharajah of Karauli, was born on the 20th February 1864, and succeeded to the *gadi* on the 14th August 1886. He was educated at the Mayo College, Ajmer. He knows English, Urdu and Sanskrit, the last of which he speaks very fluently. He is a good shot and has had many adventures and hair-breadth escapes as a *shikari*. He has bagged already some two-hundred and fifty tigers. On the 1st January 1894, he was created a Knight Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, and on the 22nd June 1897, a Knight Grand Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire. He is the head of all the Jadon Rajputs (the lunar dynasty) and is called Chandra- Banshi (in the line of the moon) to distinguish him from the descendants of Ram who are called Surj-Banshi (the children of the sun). He has constructed bridges over the rivers on the Hindaun Road the only road from Karauli to the nearest Railway Station, and built the tanks of Madanpur and Rundkapura at a cost of nearly a lakh of rupees.

In the administration of the State the Maharajah is assisted by a Council of five members. His Highness is the President and exercises full powers. There are five Tahsils, and each of them is under a Tahsildar. The immediate superior officer to a Tahsildar is a Revenue Officer or Deputy Collector. In the disposal of cases, the State courts generally follow the British laws. Some extra sections have been added to the Penal Code, declaring the killing of cows and peacocks to be offences. The Tahsildar is the lowest civil and criminal officer. He can dispose of civil suits up to Rs. 50, and, in criminal matters, can award a month's imprisonment and fine up to Rs. 20, or both. The Judicial Officer hears appeals against the decisions of the Tahsildar, enquires into civil disputes, and, in criminal cases, passes sentences up to three years' imprisonment and inflicts fines up to Rs. 500. He is further empowered to award thirty-six stripes. The Council is the highest tribunal; all appeals against the decision of the Judicial Officer are heard by it. Cases beyond his powers are triable only by the Council, and when the Maharajah presides over it, he can pass sentences of death.

During the famines of 1877-78, 1883-84, 1886-87 and 1896-98 the State suffered much. In 1897 great damage was done by locusts, and in the next year the autumn crops were greatly destroyed by a pest known

as *kata.* The Durbar relieved 268,000 units on works, and the total expenditure including loans and land revenue remissions and suspensions exceeded a lakh of rupees.

The State maintains seven schools, namely, a high school and a girls' school at the capital, and primary schools at five important centres. Education is imparted free. The high school teaches up to the Matriculation standard of the Allahabad University with an oriental department affiliated to the Punjaub University. There are five hospitals, two at the capital and three in the Districts. The Karauli town has a municipality.

The Karauli State is in the east of Rajputana, with an area of 1,242 square miles, and a population of 146, 558. About 94 per cent. are Hindus (mostly Vaishnavites), and more than 5 per cent. Mahomedans. The principal tribe is the Minas, next come the Chamars, and thirdly the Gujars. The rivers in Karauli are the Chambal, the Banas, the Morel and the Panchnad. The climate is very healthy. The principal crops are bajra, gram, moth, wheat, barley, rice and jowar. The soil is of two kinds: the first is of good quality while the second is hard and stony. The forest area is about 200 square miles. Sandstone is abundant throughout the State. Other kinds of bluish and yellow stones are also found. Weaving and dyeing are done on a small scale. The other manufactures are wooden toys, boxes and pewter and brass ornaments. Gunny-cloth, known as the *tat*, made from *san*-hemp grown near the capital, is exported on a large scale.

The normal revenue of the State is over five lakhs and the normal expenditure about four lakhs. The British coin is the sole legal tender. Salt is not manufactured in the State, and no tax is levied on this commodity. According to the agreement of 1882, the British Government pay the Maharajah a compensation of Rs. 5,000, and supply him with fifty maunds of Sambhar salt free of cost and duty.

Since the time of the first treaty with the British Government in 1817, the family has always been loyal and faithful to it, and there has not been a single instance in which the present Chief or his ancestors have ever deviated from their allegiance. The State pays no tribute to Government and enjoys privileges equally with all the neighbouring States. It maintains a military force of 125 cavalry, 25 field artillery, 1,041 infantry and 56 guns. The Maharajah is entitled to a salute of seventeen guns.

For its long record of loyalty and good services the Karauli State holds a high place in the estimation of the Supreme Government, and, under its fostering guidance, its rulers are sure to keep pace with the times and take it to prosperity and advancement.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SIR PRATAP SINGH BAHADUR, G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E., MAHARAJAH OF ORCHHA

THE Orchha State is the most important of all the principalities in the Bundelkhand Political range of the Central India Agency, and covers an area of 2,080 square miles. The country, which is hilly and covered with jungles, forms part of the flat plain enclosed by the Betwa and the Dhasan rivers. There are many tanks and wells in the State, which go to irrigate the land. The average rainfall is about forty-five inches. The population of the State is 321,634, of whom the Hindus form about 95 per cent. The rest are Mahomedans, Jains, and a small number of Animists. The common language spoken is Bundelkhandi. Nearly 50 per cent. of the people live by cultivation, though the soil is not very favourable to agriculture. The State owns only about 80 per cent. of the land, the rest being Jaghirs. Jowar, paddy, barley, gram, wheat and pulses are the principal crops.

In the eleventh century the Bundelas, a branch of the Gaharwar Rajputs of Benares, succeeded as rulers of Orchha, and Hem Karan Bundela founded the present House of Orchha. Sohan Pal (1231-59) was the first Orchha Chief. During his time all connection with other Rajputs than those of Bundelkhand was given up. In the confusion caused by the Moghul invasions, Rudra Pratap (1501-31) extended his dominions as far as possible. In 1531 he made Orchha his capital, in place of Garh-Kundar. His successors were engaged in conflicts with the Moghuls, who conquered a portion of Orchha. Madhukar Shah, the Chief of Orchha, died in 1 592, and his eight sons divided Orchha among themselves.

Ram Shah (1592-1605) was given back the conquered dominions by Akbar. But he was helpless against his brothers, especially Bir Singh Dev, who was the ablest and most troublesome. Akbar asked Ram Shah to capture Bir Singh Dev and send him to the Moghul Court, and, when Ram Shah was unable to do this, the Emperor sent Daulat Khan to

bring him. Bir Singh was captured, but he, however, escaped, and his depredations increased. Matters, however, got too hot for him, and he wanted a patron at the Moghul Court. At this time Prince Salim feared—rightly to some extent—that Abul Fazal had influenced Akbar against his succession. Bir Singh Dev ingratiated himself in the favour of Prince Salim by undertaking and carrying out the murder of the great Abul Fazal when on his way from the Deccan to Delhi through the territories of Orchha. Akbar, furious with grief and rage, did his best to capture Bir Singh, who, however, aided by Salim, managed to escape.

Akbar's death in 1605 put an end to the troubles of Bir Singh. He was richly rewarded by Jahangir for his past services. Ram Shah was deposed and Bir Singh placed on the *gadi*. As a great warrior he considerably extended the limits of his State. He increased the revenue, constructed several great architectural works, and spent lavishly on charities. In 1626 one of his sons, Bhagwan Rao, founded the Datia State.

His son and successor, Jhujhar Singh (1627-34), got his name covered with infamy by committing fratricide. When he went to Delhi to pay his respects to the new Emperor, Shah Jahan, he entrusted the administration of his dominions to his brother, Hardaul. He received reports that his wife and Hardaul were on terms of criminal intimacy and returned at once, and commanded his innocent wife to administer poison to Hardaul. The wife had to obey the husband's behest, however unreasonable or unjust, and as she took the poisoned meal to Hardaul, she burst into tears and confessed everything to him. Hardaul quickly partook of the poisoned meal, repaired to a temple and expired praying. In the Bundelkhand villages, *chabutras* (small platforms) are found where Hardaul is worshipped. Shah Jahan was much put out at this cruel and unnatural act, and he punished Jhujhar Singh by depriving him of some of his possessions and compelling him to furnish military aid. In other ways also Jhujhar Singh and his son, Vikramajit, incurred the displeasure of the Moghul Court. An army was sent against them, and in the struggle both were killed.

From 1637 to 1641, Orchha was without a responsible head, though the Maharajah of Chanderi was the nominal ruler. All Bir Singh Dev's possessions, except Chanderi and Datia, were annexed to the Empire. Disturbances arose in the State over the restoration of Prithwi Raj, a son of Jhujhar Singh, while the territories of Orchha were ravaged by the famous Champat Rai, whose descendants founded the Panna, Charkhari, Ajaigarh and other States. At last Shah Jahan placed Pahar Singh, brother of Jhujhar, on the throne. He ruled from 1641 to 1653, and, as a general under Shah Jahan, helped him in several expeditions.. His successor, Sujan Singh (1653-72), remained neutral during the fratricidal

war that broke out on Shah Jahan's death. The reign of Indramani (1672-75) was not marked by any event of importance. Yashwant Singh occupied the *gadi* from 1675 to 1684. Chhatarsal, son of Champat Rai, conquered and established the kingdom of Panna at the expense of Orchha in 1675. The Mahrattas also made inroads into Northern India. Bhagwant Singh (1684-89) being a minor, the Maharani became regent. On his death she adopted Udot Singh, who reigned from 1689 to 1736. During his reign the Maharani managed to keep out the Mahrattas by paying them subsidies. At this time Bundelkhand was broken up into four divisions: Orchha, Datia, Panna and Chanderi.

Prithwi Singh (1736-52) succeeded Udot Singh. In 1742 the Maharajah yielded to the all-powerful Mahrattas, and ceded to them a large portion of his territories. Then came Sawant Singh who ruled from 1752 to 1765. At this time Ahmad Shah crushed the Moghul Empire. In 1761 the Mahratta confederacy also was broken up in the third battle of Paniput, and in 1764 the battle of Buxar made the British the paramount power in India. Three chiefs had ruled over Orchha until 1776, but they were so powerless that they retained only Orchha town, and a small tract of land around it. Vikramajit (1776-1817) concluded a treaty with the British in 1812, by which he got himself rid of the Mahràtta raid. After him Dharmpal and Tej Singh reigned successively. The latter leaving no issue, his Rani wanted to adopt a successor. Sujan Singh put forth his claims as a cousin of the deceased. The State was torn by the dissensions of these parties, until Sujan Singh died by poison in 1854. The Maharani was allowed by the British Government to choose a successor.

Maharajah Hamir Singh, the nominee of the Maharani, was a minor. While the administration of the State was still in the hands of the Maharani, the great Indian Mutiny broke out. She steadfastly adhered to the British Government, and the European fugitives at Lalitpur found shelter at Orchha. The State army overran a great portion of Bundelkhand and besieged Jhansi itself. In recognition of these services the Government of India conferred on His Highness the Maharajah Hamir Singh a sanad of adoption and remitted the tribute of Rs. 3,000 paid to the Rajah of Jhansi and the *istimirari* revenue of Mohanpur village.

In 1874 the Maharajah was succeeded by his younger brother, Pràtap Singh, the present Chief, then only twenty years old. During the first two years the Maharajah was assisted in the administration of the State by a British officer, and ever since His Highness himself has been carrying on the administration. In 1884 the Durbar made over lands required for the Jhansi-Manikpur Railway. In 1886 His Highness

received the hereditary distinction of Saramad-i-Rajaha-i-Bundelkhand and the title of Sawai. The Maharajah attended the Delhi Durbar of 1903 with his eldest son, Rajah Bahadur Bhagwant Singh, and congratulated His Imperial Majesty in the following terms :—

I am highly delighted in attending the grand assemblage to have the opportunity of expressing my sincere feelings of fidelity to the British Crown, and request Your Excellency to be good enough to submit my hearty congratulations, fealty and devotion to His Most Gracious Majesty's Coronation, and to assure His Most Gracious Majesty, on my behalf, that I and my house adhere, and will continue to adhere, most friendly to the British Crown, with the same zeal, attachment and fealty imbibed by my old house since the very advent of British rule in India, and so will ever remain deserving and thankful for the Imperial favours.

His Highness the Maharajah won the distinction of G. C. I. E. in 1898 and was made a G. C. S. I. in 1906. The ordinary salute to the Chief of Orchha is fifteen guns, but since 1877 the Maharajah has enjoyed a personal salute of seventeen guns. His full titles are—His Highness Saramad-i-Rajaha-i-Bundelkhand Maharajah Mahendra Sawai Bahadur Maharajah Sir Pratap Singh Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., Maharajah of Orchha.

The State has a postal system of its own with an office at each police station. There are also British post offices at Tikamgarh, Baldeogarh and Jatara, and telegraph offices at the Orchha, Arjar and Teharka railway stations. The State is divided into five parganas, each in charge of a Tahsildar who exercises the powers of a Magistrate and a Revenue Collector. The Maharajah has a minister, styled the Madar-ul-Muham. The Chief is the final referee in all matters, and he alone can pass sentences of death. Caste disputes are referred to Panchayats. The normal revenue of the State is seven lakhs of rupees. Gold, silver and copper coins are struck at the mint in Tikamgarh. The rupee in currency is known as Gajja Shahi. The army of the State consists of 250 cavalry, 1,000 Infantry and 100 gunners with 90 serviceable guns. The irregulars mostly police of the State with 150 regular constables and 402 chaukidars. The Durbar maintains a High School at Tikamgarh and some educational institutions in villages.

Tikamgarh is the present capital of the State. Till 1887 the principal town was known as Tehri, but in order to avoid confusion with Teri (Garhwal) in the United Provinces, Tikamgarh was officially announced as the capital of the Orchha State, where the Maharajah resides.

This ancient little Rajput State has thus passed through many struggles and has survived them all. Protected by the Paramount Power and endowed with all modern equipments, it has, it may safely be predicted, a progressive and prosperous future before it.

MAJOR-GENERAL HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SIR PERTAB SINGH BAHADUR, G. C. S. I., G. C. V. O., K. C. B., LL. D., OF IDAR, MAHARAJAH-REGENT OF JODHPUR

THE most important principality in the Mahikantha Agency of Bombay is the picturesque State of Idar, which covers an area of 1,669 square miles. Its green hills, well-wooded and traversing the greater part of the country, present a beautiful appearance after the rains. Several rivers flow through it, adding very much to the pleasing effect of the scenery. The climate is subject to extremes of heat and cold.

This idyllic little State has passed through the hands of various rulers. The present Chiefs of Idar are Rajputs of the famous Rathor clan, and of the Joda family, of which the head is the Maharajah of Jodhpur. It is on record that the Ghalot Bhils occupied the Idar State till the end of the tenth century. Subsequently for a period of 200 years, the country was in the hands of Paramara Rajputs. The last of them, named Amar Singh, resigned the State to his servant, Hathi Sord, a Koli. On his death, he was succeeded by his son, Samalio Sord. His misrule and tyranny drove the ministers to the necessity of calling in the help of Rao Sonang of Sametra, the ancestor of the Raos of Pol. Rao Sonang defeated and killed Samalio Sord, and seized the territory.

About twelve successors of Rao Sonang had ruled over Idar when it came under the occupation of the Moghul Emperors. When the hold of the Moghul Empire over the Deccan became almost nominal after the death of Aurangzeb, Raos Anand Singh and Rai Singh, two brothers of the Rajah of Jodhpur, easily overthrew the Moghul Deputy, and took possession of the tract. The Mahrattas who, under the Peshwa, were then successfully engaged in plunder and conquest, seized Idar, and placed it in charge of a Military Commander. Anand Singh was killed in a fight with the Mahrattas about 1753, and his brother, Rai Singh, in the absence of the Mahratta Commander, collected a force, and

recovered possession of Idar. Shiv Singh, son of Anand Singh, succeeded to the *gadi*, but being a minor, Rai Singh, his uncle, acted as regent until his death in 1766.

During the regime of Shiv Singh, the territories of Idar were conquered and divided equally between the Peshwa and the Gaekwar. The Peshwa ceded his acquisition to the British, while the Gaekwar, leaving it in the hands of the Chiefs of Idar, contented himself with the exaction of a yearly tribute which is still paid by them. In 1791 Bhawan Singh, the eldest son of Shiv Singh, succeeded to the *gadi*, but died a few days later, leaving a son, Gambhir Singh, then only ten years old. Taking advantage of his minority, the other sons of Shiv Singh caused disturbances in the State, and succeeded in acquiring slices of Idar, though only temporarily. For by the end of 1848, Idar again regained its old state by the partitioners dying issueless.

Maharajah Gambhir Singh was succeeded by his son, Jawan Singh. His Highness served on the Legislative Council of Bombay, and was made a K. C. S. I. in recognition of his services and loyalty. He died in 1868, leaving the *gadi* to Maharajah Kesri Singh. His Highness ruled over the State wisely till 1902, when he died, leaving one of his Ranis pregnant. The expected child turned out to be a son, who, however, lived only for a short time after his birth. The vacancy thus created was filled up by the Government of India choosing Maharajah Pertab Singh as the successor, and a more popular or happier choice could never have been made.

Since the advent of the British rule in India, no other Chief has loomed so large in the eyes of the European officers as the Maharajah of Idar. Sir Pertab Singh, by his striking personality, chivalrous manners, war-like qualities and wise statesmanship, has won the appreciation and friendship of every one that came in contact with him. His Highness, a Rathor Rajput of the Solar Race, said to be descended from the second son of Rama, was born in 1845, and is the younger brother of the late Maharajah Jaswant Singh of Jodhpur. His father, Maharajah Takht Singh, who belonged to the Ahmednagar branch of the Chiefs of Idar, died in 1873. Young Pertab acquired early a unique training in the arts of peace and war which well fitted him for his distinguished future career. As the younger son of a ruling family, he was free to utilise his remarkable talents for the service of those who required them. The neighbouring chiefs were closely connected with him, and he first learnt the art of administration under his brother-in-law, Majarajah Sir Ram Singh of Jaipur, who was reputed to have been a wise and noble ruler. In 1878 he was offered the office of Prime Minister

of his own State, Jodhpur, which he accepted. His sagacious rule and military talents soon attracted the attention of the Government of India, who enlisted his services on the Mission sent to Kabul under General Sir Neville Chamberlain. The Government, in recognition of his services, made him a C. S. I. and a K. C. S. I. in 1885. Sir Pertab Singh attended the Jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1887 as a representative of his brother, Sir Jaswant Singh, Chief of Jodhpur. The Queen-Empress was on that occasion so highly pleased with the bearing and worth of Sir Pertab that she conferred on him the title of Maharajah Dhiraj. His late Majesty King Edward VII appointed him as his A.-D.-C. He also received the honorary commission of a Lieutenant-Colonelship in the British Army.

In 1895 the Government of India appointed the Maharajah Sir Pertab Singh, Regent of Jodhpur, as his nephew, the Ruler of that State, was a minor. Sir Pertab Singh was present in London on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of Her late Majesty, when he obtained the distinction of G. C. S. I. The University of Cambridge also conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Laws.

In 1897 his military instincts made him join General Ellis's staff in the Mohmand expedition, and in the Tirah campaign under Sir William Lockhart. In the latter expedition, though wounded, he concealed the fact until it was discovered by the General some days after. On the 9th December 1899, in recognition of his services, His Majesty conferred on the Maharajah the Order of the Bath and also the commission of a Colonelship. H. E. Lord Curzon invested His Highness with the insignia of C. B., at an evening party in the Viceregal Camp at Agra, and spoke of Sir Pertab as follows :—

The Cross of the Bath, as we all know, is an order ancient in origin, illustrious in character, conferred by the Sovereign for eminent service in the civil branches of her administration or upon the field. She has given it to the Maharajah for services rendered by him in the Mohmand expedition of 1897, when he served as an extra Aide-de-Camp upon the staff of Major-General Ellis. The Maharajah cheerfully and courageously bore his share in the hardships of that campaign, and he hereby set an excellent example to every class of Her Majesty's subjects. At a later date, in the Tirah campaign, under our present Commander-in-Chief, Sir William Lockhart, he rendered similarly excellent service. He was wounded in one of the engagements that then took place, and he was rewarded for his services by being promoted to an Honorary Colonelcy in the ranks of the British army. Nor have I by any means exhausted in this short record the catalogue of the services of the Maharajah. He has been a firm and loyal friend of the British Government, and has gained honour in peace as well as in war. We know that for many years as brother of the late Maharajah, and as uncle of the present ruler, he has played a great part in the administration of his State of Jodhpur. We know

that to him in the main we owe the raising and the equipment of the two splendid Regiments of Jodhpur Imperial Service Cavalry. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales included him in the ranks of his Aides-de-Camp and the Maharajah appeared as a conspicuous and chivalrous figure in the Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen.

This, Ladies and Gentlemen, is the striking personality whom I have invited you here to honour this evening—a gallant Rajput nobleman, a brave warrior, a genuine sportsman, a true gentleman, a loyal and devoted subject of Her Majesty the Queen. Long may he live to wear the decoration which I am now about to pin upon his breast; and may the younger men of India, the Princes and Chiefs, and Nobles of his country, imitate his manly inspiring example.

Again, with his Jodhpur Lancers he took part in the China war, where also he covered himself with glory. In 1901 he won the distinction of K. C. B., and in 1902 he was present in London and attended His late Majesty the King-Emperor's Coronation, when the Maharajah was made His Majesty's A.-D.-C. He was also appointed Honorary Commandant of the Indian Imperial Cadet Corps, and Commanding Officer of the Imperial Service Contingent. When His Imperial Majesty toured round India and Burma as Prince of Wales in 1905-06, His Highness was attached to His Majesty as an A.-D.-C. At the last Delhi Durbar His Imperial Majesty conferred on His Highness the distinction of G. C. V. O.

The full titles of the Maharajah are—Major-General His Highness the Maharajah Dhiraj Sir Pertab Singh Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G. C.V.O., K.C.B., LL.D., of Idar, A.-D.-C. to H.I.M. the King-Emperor, and Maharajah-Regent of Jodhpur. He is entitled to a salute of seventeen guns.

The Durbar has an annual revenue of six lakhs, of which a lakh and a half goes to the feudal Chiefs, who had once nobly worked for the stability of the State. The Maharajah exercises first class jurisdiction, with the power to inflict the punishment of death. There are several civil and criminal courts, with a police of over six hundred, of whom a hundred are mounted. The Durbar maintains more than fifty educational institutions at an annual cost of about Rs. 12,000. The Bhils have a prejudice against education, but, as in the case of many other communities in India, time is sure to overcome it.

On the death of the Maharajah of Jodhpur in March 1911, Sir Pertab Singh was once again called to administer that important State in Rajputana, and Idar was left in the hands of his son, Maharajah Daulat Singh, who bids fair to prove himself the worthy son of his great father. It is a piece of good fortune that Idar should have enjoyed the privilege of having such a chivalrous and high-minded ruler as Sir Pertab Singh; for his name and fame should ever be an inspiring example to all his successors. The State will before long take a prominent place amongst the advanced Feudatory States of India.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SAWAI SIR JAI SINGH BAHADUR, K. C. S. I., K. C. I. E., MAHARAJAH OF ALWAR

THE Alwar State in Rajputana rose from small beginnings in the eighteenth century, and has now an area of 3,141 square miles. The country is hilly, and traversed by two rivers. The Sabi flows only during the rains, and the Laswari, running partly in Alwar and partly in Bharatpur, has always been a bone of contention between the two States. The climate is dry and healthy, and the rainfall averages about twenty-two inches.

The Alwar Chiefs are Rajputs of the Lalawat clan of the Kachvaha tribe, to which class also belongs the Maharajah of Jaipur. Pratap Singh, the founder of Alwar, who was born in 1740, was a descendant of Bar Singh, the son of Udai Karan, who had ruled over Jaipur in the latter half of the fourteenth century. He possessed at first only two villages. After passing through several vicissitudes, he succeeded before his death in establishing his sway over seven districts and over parts of two other districts. He achieved this by a series of encroachments on the neighbouring States of Jaipur and Bharatpur. Emperor Shah Alam II also obtained the help of Pratap Singh, in recognition of which he conferred upon him the title of Rao Rajah, and a sanad authorizing him to hold his estate direct from the Crown. Rao Rajah Bakhtawar Singh, who succeeded Pratap Singh in 1791, still further extended and consolidated the State by judiciously allying himself with the English. In 1803 he entered into a treaty acknowledging the suzerainty of the British Government who, on their part, granted him certain districts in return for the military services rendered during the Mahratta war (1803). Some of these districts were exchanged for others in the British dominions in 1805, and since then the limits of Alwar have not changed.

When Bakhtawar died in 1815 without an heir, a struggle arose about the succession. He had intended to adopt Banni Singh, a nephew,

but died before the completion of the ceremonies; and so Banni Singh disputed the *gadi* with Balwant Singh, an illegitimate son of the late ruler. The Supreme Government patched up a settlement, by which Banni Singh retained the title, and Balwant Singh became the chief. This arrangement did not satisfy either party, and the strife lasted for ten years. In 1824 Banni Singh succeeded by taking Balwant Singh prisoner, and thus put an end to the struggle. Banni Singh proved himself a very capable ruler. His subjects were, as an old saying puts it, "singularly savage and brutal robbers by profession, never to be reformed or subdued." By adopting stringent measures, he made them give up their lawless habits and settle down to comparative order and peace. He introduced several reforms in the administration with the help of some Mahomedans brought from Delhi, whom he appointed as his Ministers. He was intensely loyal, and evinced his devotion to the British cause by despatching before his death a small force to help the garrison at Agra during the great Indian Mutiny of 1857.

The State of Alwar, after Banni Singh's death, went through stormy times owing to the incapacity of his successors who were minors. Sheodan Singh, the son and successor of Banni Singh, was only twelve years old at the time of his father's death. In 1858 the Rajputs revolted as Sheodan Singh had fallen completely under the influence of his father's Mahomedan Ministers from Delhi. The Supreme Government interfered and entrusted the administration of the State to a Council of Regency under the supervision of a Political Agent. In 1863 Sheodan Singh was installed on the *gadi*. Great troubles arose in connection with his accession; because he would not give up his old Mahomedan Ministers, nor did he rule the country properly. The Rajputs rebelled again in 1870. This time the Rajah was deposed, and a Council was created, which ruled over the State under the direction of the Political Agent.

In 1874 Rajah Sheodan Singh died without issue, and he failed to exercise the powers of adoption conferred upon him. The British Government confiscated the State, and generously refraining from exercising their prerogative, called upon the twelve Narukha Rajput families to elect a successor, who chose Thakur Mangal Singh of Thana. The Government approved of the choice, and Maharajah Mangal Singh was invested with full powers in 1877. He studied at the Mayo College, Ajmer. He took an active part in the administration of the State. He reformed the currency by having the Alwar silver coins struck at the Calcutta Mint. He adopted relief measures during the famine of 1877-78. In 1887 His Highness gave a liberal donation of Rs. 50,000 to the Lady Dufferin Fund, and laid the foundation for a hospital for women. As a mark of his devotion and loyal-

ty to the British Throne, the Maharajah formed a regiment of cavalry and another of infantry in the interests of Imperial defence. In recognition of his ability and services, Her late Majesty was pleased to confer upon His Highness in 1886 the title of G.C.S.I., and in 1889 the hereditary distinction of Maharajah. The Chief is entitled to a salute of fifteen guns.

On the death of His Highness the Maharajah Sir Mangal Singh in 1892, his young son, Maharajah Jai Singh, the present ruler, succeeded, but was invested with full administrative powers only in 1903. H. E. Lord Curzon, on the solemn occasion of the installation of the Prince, spoke as follows:—

Maharajah, you have completed your twenty-first year. I think it much better that a young Chief should not be installed too soon. To take a mere boy and trust him with ruling powers is often not fair either upon him or upon the State; and many of the mistakes of the past have been due in my judgment to the premature removal of all discipline and restraint from weak disposition of ill-balanced minds. The Government of India must of course judge each case on its own merits as it arises; but the tests which it must require to be satisfied in each case are the same, namely, that the young Chief has received the education and the training, and that he possesses the character, that will qualify him to rule over men; and that the interests of his State and people will not be imperilled or sacrificed by his elevation.

It is because the Government of India believe this definition to be satisfied in your case that I am here, Maharajah, to instal you to-day. You have had a good education; you have passed through a period of restraint and discipline; you have attained to the years of maturity; and I believe you to be inspired by a true and sincere desire to deserve well of your State and your people.

A Rajput Prince who falls away from the ideals of his house and clan is committing a worse offence than a smaller man, because he is casting a stain upon that which we are fond of regarding as the mirror of chivalry and high breeding. But a Rajput Prince who is noble in character and blameless in deeds is adding something of his own account to the ancestral and famous reputation of his race.

The Maharajah of Alwar is a very keen sportsman. On the 9th January 1903, after the Delhi Durbar, His Highness took an active part in the Alwar Polo Team which finally won the Viceroy's international cup over the Jodhpur Team. The Maharajah obtained the distinctions of K. C. S. I. in 1909, and K. C. I. E. at the Delhi Durbar of 1911.

His Highness, when he was in England, invited a number of friends to dinner at the Hotel Cecil on the 14th June 1912, in celebration of His Majesty the King-Emperor's birthday. Among those present were the Earl and Countess of Minto, Lord Tweedmouth, and the Maharajahs of Kapurthala, Jhalawar and Nawanagar. On the 29th idem, in

honour of his birthday, His Highness gave his friends a dinner in London. The prominent of those present were the Maharajahs of Kapurthala, Jhalawar, and Dholpur, the Earl and Countess of Minto, Lord Tweedmouth, the Thakore Sahib of Limbdi, the Raj Kumar Sardar Singh, besides the personal staff of the Maharajah of Alwar. His Highness also attended a garden party given by His Majesty the King-Emperor on the 18th July 1912.

The State has a population of nearly 900,000 living in 1,762 towns and villages. Fine marble stone is quarried in several places. Agriculture, weaving, dyeing and work in stones form the principal industries.

The administration of the State is carried on by the Chief assisted by a Council of three members. There are civil and criminal courts in the land. The highest court is the Council, which, when presided over by the Maharajah, can inflict capital punishment.

The Durbar maintains an Imperial Service Regiment of 600 cavalry and 1000 infantry besides irregulars, with 272 serviceable guns. The infantry fought creditably in China (1900-01). The State has a police force of 942 of all ranks. The capital has a central jail, while there are local jails at the district headquarters. There are 32 indigenous and 103 State educational institutions. The capital possesses a State High School, a Nobles' School, and a Mission School, where English is taught. The expenditure on education is nearly Rs. 50,000 a year. The normal revenue amounts to thirty-two lakhs, and the expenditure comes almost to the same amount.

The important buildings within the Alwar city are the palace built by Maharao Rajah Banni Singh, the cenotaph of Maharao Rajah Bakhtawar Singh, which is considered a splendid sample of the foliated or segmental arch style, an old tomb erected about 1393 in memory of Tarang Sultan, several old mosques with inscriptions, and the Lady Dufferin hospital for women. To the north-west of the city there is a fort, whose ramparts extend along the hill-top and across the valley for about two miles. Outside the city are the Banni Bilas palace and gardens, another new palace, known as the Lansdowne Kothi, the public gardens, the lines of the Imperial Service Regiment, the cotton press and the ginning factory, the central jail, and the large tomb near the railway station.

The State is in a flourishing condition under the present Ruler who is popular. Education and industries are making fair progress. His Highness's able administration and personal virtues are sure to win the recognition of the Supreme Government.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MIR
IMAM BAKSH KHAN BAHADUR, G. C. I. E.,
MIR OF KHAIRPUR

THE Khairpur State is situated in the district of Sind, Bombay, and has an area of 6,050 square miles. The alluvial plains watered by the Indus system and the narrow belt of land irrigated by the Eastern Nara, both comprising a fourth of the total area of the State, are fertile ; while the remaining portion is a barren waste. The climate is subject to extremes of heat and cold. The rainfall is scanty. The population of the State, numbering 223,822, according to the census of 1911, is spread over one town and one hundred and fifty-three villages. The languages spoken are Sindi, Persian, Siraiki, and Beluchi.

The Kalhora dynasty, which ruled over Sind, became extinct in 1783. It was succeeded by the Talpur dynasty, of which the first ruler was Mir Fateh Ali Khan Talpur. Some years later, his nephew Mir Sohrab Khan founded the Khairpur State. At first it included only the town of Khairpur, and a small tract of land around it. But the Mir enlarged it considerably. In 1811 he abdicated in favour of his son Mir Rustum. In 1813 the Mir of Sind, taking advantage of the confusion in Afghanistan consequent on the overthrow of the ruling dynasty, stopped the payment of tribute to Kabul and thus became independent.

In 1832 the Mir entered into a treaty with the British, by which they acknowledged his status. Later on Mir Ali Murad, who had gradually superseded his brother, Mir Ali Rustum, assisted the English in their expedition against Kabul. This assistance was well rewarded in due course ; for, in the confusion of 1843 in Sind, Khairpur alone was permitted to retain its autonomy. During the Mutiny, the Mir remained loyal to the British. In 1866 he was granted a sanad by the Supreme Government, recognising succession in the family according to Mahomedan law in the absence of natural heirs. Ali Murad died in 1894. He was succeeded by his son, Mir Faiz Muhammad Khan, on whom the Government con-

ferred the title of G.C.I.E. His Highness Mir Imambuksh Khan, the present ruler, who succeeded his father on the 6th March 1909, takes an active part in the administration of the State, in which he is ably assisted by his Minister. He has three sons, all of whom were educated in the Aitchison Chiefs' College, Lahore. The Mir takes a keen interest in education. He gives an annual donation of Rs. 12,000 to the College in Sind and another of Rs. 6,000 to the M. A. O. College, Aligarh. His Highness contributed a lakh of rupees to the Mahomedan University scheme and another lakh for the purpose of erecting a statue of King Edward VII at Karachi. The State pays no tribute and gets a normal revenue of a little over seventeen lakhs. The Prince enjoys a personal salute of seventeen guns, though the Mir of Khairpur is entitled ordinarily to fifteen guns only.

Great improvements have been effected in the administration of the State in recent years. The State is divided into five taluks, each under a Mukhtiarkar. These are under the supervision of the sub-divisional officers, called Naib-Wazirs, who again are subject to the control of the Wazir. Criminal powers are also exercised by these officers, and an appeal lies to the Mir, who alone can inflict capital punishment. Civil cases are decided largely by punchayats. After the advent of the present ruler, new canals have been constructed and old ones improved, and consequently cultivation has been greatly extended. Advances are made to agriculturists.

The chief manufactures are cotton and silk fabrics, silver-ware of different kinds, lacquered woodwork, boots, shoes, horse-trappings, swords, match-locks and earthen pottery. In the industrial school at Khairpur, carpets are woven. The revenue is collected in kind, the Mir receiving a third of the produce.

The police force numbers 255 men of all ranks, and there are two jails. The Durbar maintains an infantry battalion, artillery, and 176 cavalry for Imperial service purposes, besides a camel and baggage corps consisting of 40 mounted escort, 40 riding camels, 90 transport men and 240 transport camels.

Education is rapidly spreading. With a view to encourage higher education His Highness has recently endowed Rs. 60,000, for the institution of a few scholarships for promising Mahomedan students from Sind, varying in value from Rs. 240 to Rs. 300 per annum. There are about ninety-eight schools in the State, of which one is industrial, teaching carpentry, smithy, embroidery, and carpet-making. There is a hospital for women at Khairpur, besides two veterinary hospitals.

Under its present enlightened Ruler the State is already on the road to progress and its future is sure to be one of prosperity and advancement.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH
SIR UDAJI RAO PUAR SAHIB BAHADUR, K. C. S. I.,
RAJAH OF DHAR

THE Mahratta State of Dhar is one of the eleven principalities of the Central India Agency in direct treaty relationship with the British Government in the Bhopawar Political charge and stands sixth in Central India in the order of precedence. The Vindhya Range traverses the State almost through the centre dividing it into two distinct portions characterized by differences of soil and products. The country lying above the Vindhya is called Malwa, while that below is known as Nimar.

The State has an area of 1,775 square miles and a population of 154,070 giving a mean density of 86 persons per square mile. There are 75·58 per cent. Hindus, 14·75 per cent. Animists, and 7·86 per cent. Mahomedans, while the remainder is made up of a miscellaneous group.

The gross revenue of the State is eleven lakhs. The State does not pay tribute to the British Government or to any other State; on the other hand, it receives tribute from its feudatories numbering twenty-two, thirteen of whom are guaranteed Thakurs and Bhumias, and the remaining nine are unguaranteed Thakurs. The Ali Rajpur State also pays to the Dhar Durbar a tribute called the Ali Mohan Tanka. It was originally divided into nine parganas or districts, viz., Dhar, Badnawar, Nalcha, Dharampuri, Kuksi, Thikri Nimanpur, Mandu and Sundarsi. Three of these districts having been amalgamated with the adjoining main parganas, they have now been reduced to six. The territory is watered by the Narbada, the Chambal, the Man, the Karam and the Bagri rivers. The agricultural products are wheat, rice, gram, juar, maize, cotton, opium, sugar-cane, tobacco, linseed and turmeric. The mean annual rainfall is thirty inches, and the climate is healthy. Its jungles abound in wild animals, such as tigers, bears, panthers, deer, sambhar, chitahs, and wild dogs.

The State takes its name from the chief town Dhar, one of the most



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ancient and famous towns in India. The name is supposed to be derived from *Dharanagari*, or " the City of sword-blades," possibly referring to its acquisition by conquest.

Dhar is thirty-three miles from the nearest Railway Station, Mhow, on the B. B. & C. I. Railway, and is 1,872 feet above the sea-level. The State abounds in numerous monumental records of bygone greatness and possesses architectural and archæological treasures, among which the old Fort of Mandoo stands foremost. In the capital itself there are many remains both of the Mahomedan and earlier Hindu periods, while several ancient records of the greatest interest have been discovered among them. The fort, built of red stones, is situated outside the town on an eminence of forty feet above the plain; the Lat Masjid and the Kamal Maula or Bhoja Rajah's School, are among the places of interest generally visited by antiquarians.

The Chiefs of Dhar are Puar Mahrattas, and are descended from the famous Paramaras, who had ruled in Malwa from the fifth to the thirteenth century with their capitals at Ujjain and Dhar. The dynasty rose into prominence during the reigns of the semi-mythological heroes and kings, Munja and Bhoja, the latter of whom is said to have transferred his capital from Ujjain to Dhar, making it renowned in India as a seat of learning and scholarship by patronising such eminent literary men and poets like the great Kalidas and others. It was from the time of Bhoja that dame Fortune is said to have frowned on the dynasty ; and Bhoja suffering reverses at the hands of the Chedi Kings of Gujarath, the Puars were driven into the Deccan, and their kingdom began to decline. It was then absorbed into the Delhi Empire, and Malwa became a province of it in the fourteenth century. Dilavarkhan Ghori, the first of its governors, built a mosque for his followers with the materials of the demolished Hindu temples, and established his capital at Mandoo. The Rajput Puars, who had been driven into the Deccan and absorbed into the population, rose again into prominence in later centuries by supplying distinguished generals to Shivaji and his warlike successors. In the reign of Shahu and the Peshwaship of Balaji Vishwanath, the two Puar brothers, Kaluji and Sambhaji, went on a conquering expedition to Malwa, and their sons succeeded in establishing the principalities of Dewas and Dhar. Tukoji and Jivaji, the two sons of Kaluji, established themselves in the two branches of Dewas, while the haughty and war-like Udaji, the son of Sambhaji, conquered Dhar. Anand Rao I, his younger brother, however, is regarded as the founder of the present principality of Dhar, as he was the first to obtain the sanad from the Peshwa Baji Rao I and to realise the tributes from the Rajput Chiefs. He was succeeded by his son,

Yeshwant Rao Puar, at the age of twenty-five. He was killed at the battle of Panipat and was succeeded by his minor son, Khande Rao. In 1774 Khande Rao espoused the cause of Raghoba Peshwa, and gave shelter to his wife, Anandi Bai, in the Dhar Fort, where the Peshwa Baji Rao II was born.

Khande Rao died in 1780, and, after six months, a posthumous child was born, who succeeded him as Anand Rao II. A period of misfortune then followed, and Dhar was subjected to a continued spoliation at the hands of Sindhia and Holkar. It was saved from utter ruin by the courage and skill of the heroic Maina Bai, wife of Anand Rao II, and adoptive mother of Ramachandra Rao Puar, who entered into a treaty with the British in 1819, and thereby secured their protection and the restoration of the lost territories to Dhar. Ramachandra Rao died in 1833, and his wife, Annapurna Bai, adopted Malhar Rao, a son of Yeshwant Rao of Malthan. He made many improvements by introducing a systematic survey and settlement and a number of economic reforms. He was famous for his piety, generosity and love of learning. He died in 1857, and his half-brother succeeded him as Anand Rao III. As he was a boy of tender age, he was quite unable to cope with the torrent of mutiny and dissatisfaction which then spread over the whole country. The Bilaities and Makranies raised the standard of revolt and held the fort for sometime, till it was taken by the Mhow column under General Stewart on the 25th October 1857. This mutinous spirit on the part of the State troops led to the confiscation of the State on the 19th January 1858, but it was again restored to the Chief on the 1st May 1860, with the exception of the Bersia pargana. The State continued under British supervision till the 1st October 1864, when the Rajah was invested with ruling powers. During his time many administrative reforms were introduced, and the revenue of the State rose from five to nine lakhs. His loyalty was recognised in 1862 by the grant of a sanad guaranteeing him the right of adoption; and on the grand occasion of the Delhi Assemblage in 1877, he was conferred the title of Maharajah as a personal distinction, and was created a Knight Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. Six years later he was again decorated with the Companionship of the Order of the Indian Empire. In 1886 the British Government recognised the jurisdiction of the Dhar Durbar over the guaranteed Thakurs and Bhumias, and in the next year all the transit duties in the State were abolished.

His Highness the Maharajah Sir Anand Rao Puar, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., was the originator of the present system of education in Dhar and the founder of the charitable Hospital. He died on the 15th July 1896, after a prolonged illness of over seven years mourned alike by his subjects and by his nume-

rous European and Indian friends. He was a good administrator, kind and considerate to his subjects, and, at all times, willing to contribute liberally to works of charity. His loving subjects used to speak of him, " He was short in stature but large of heart."

He was succeeded by his nephew, Bhagooji Rao Puar, son of his half-brother, Sambhaji Rao, otherwise known as Aba Sahib Puar. The late Maharajah had brought him up in his early days with a view to adopt him, and took him in adoption one year previous to his death under the name of Udaji Rao Puar.

His Highness the Rajah Sir Udaji Rao Puar Sahib Bahadur is the present Chief. He was born on the 30th September 1886, and, after his succession, he was sent to the Daly College, Indore, where he studied till August 1903. Then arrangements were made for his education and training at Dhar under a European tutor, Mr. F. D. H. Joy, assisted by an Indian guardian. Mr. Joy continued as his tutor for three years, and on his transfer to the Daly College, Indore, His Highness was given practical training in administration under the supervision of Lt. Colonel F. G. Beville, C.I.E., the Political Agent, under whose direction the State was then administered by a Superintendent. Lt. Colonel Beville, who was well known for his vast experience and great tact, trained the Chief in the different branches of administration. The young Prince soon showed a great aptitude and capacity for work, and, within a short period of two years, learnt all the intricacies of administration. He was invested with ruling powers on the 6th December 1907, by the Hon'ble Lt. Colonel Sir Hugh Daly, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., the then Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, at a grand Durbar attended by the Sirdars, Officials, Jagirdars, Feudatories of the State, and numerous illustrious guests, both European and Indian. In the meantime negotiations were completed with the Savantvadi State for His Highness's marriage with the eldest Rajkumari, and the marriage ceremonies were performed amidst great rejoicings at Dhar on the 25th December 1907, when Sir Desai Sahib with his family and numerous other guests graced the occasion with their presence. Two days after, the second Rajkumari of Savantvadi was married to His Highness's younger half-brother, Shrimant Seturam Sahib Puar.

His Highness's talented Dewan, Mr. T. Chajuram, has, by his faithful services to the State, fully justified his selection, and is of immense help to His Highness in carrying out the various administrative improvements. In recognition of his faithful and valuable services to the State, the Government of India conferred on him the title of *Diwan Bahadur* at the Delhi Durbar of 1911.

Since His Highness assumed the reins of Government, the State has been showing a marked and steady progress in every branch of the administration. Its finances have improved, the condition of its ryots has been ameliorated by the completion of the Settlement, its relation with its feudatories placed on a firmer footing, and the education of its masses specially attended to. In order to give a due share to the Nobility of the State in the Government and with a view to prepare them for greater responsibility, an Advisory Council has been formed, composed of Feudatories, Sirdars, and Officers of the State.

According to the terms of the treaty of 1819, the Rajah has control over all civil, judicial and other administrative matters. Thirteen of the twenty-two feudatories hold their estates under a guarantee from the British Government; but, nevertheless, the civil and criminal jurisdiction is vested in the Dhar Durbar. The British coin is the legal tender throughout the State. The army of the State (regulars) consists of 53 cavalry, 200 infantry and 19 artillery with 5 guns. There are also 245 irregulars assisting in police work. The police numbers 317 of all ranks. The State maintains fifty educational institutions. There are thirteen hospitals and dispensaries.

Invited by the Government of India, His Highness attended the Delhi Durbar in 1903 and was awarded the Coronation Gold Medal. He also attended the Durbar held by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales at Indore in 1905. He is a member of the Managing Committee of the Daly College as well as of that of the King Edward Hospital, Indore, and was specially nominated by His Excellency Lord Minto, as a member of the Mayo College Managing Committee at Ajmer. At the Delhi Durbar of 1911, His Imperial Majesty conferred on His Highness the distinction of K. C. S. I. The Chief is entitled to a salute of fifteen guns.

His Highness has three daughters: the eldest being *Raj-Kumari* Shrimati Sushila Rajah Sahiba, the second, Shrimati Sarla Rajah Sahiba, and the youngest, Shrimati Kamla Rajah Sahiba.

Of an amiable and generous disposition, His Highness is very hospitable, and a liberal contributor to all works of improvement and charity. He is an able administrator, an enthusiastic sportsman, a keen *shikari*, an excellent rider, and a great lover of horses. He is a bright young scion of the ancient Puar Family, and has always maintained the traditional loyalty of the house. Under the able and sympathetic rule of His Highness, the State has no doubt an excellent progressive future before it, which will remind people of the ancient days of Bhoja and Kalidas.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJ RANA SHRI UDAI BHAN SINGH BAHADUR MAHARAJ RANA OF DHOLPUR

THE Dholpur State is situated in Rajputana and occupies an area of 1,155 square miles. The country is flat in the north, but is traversed by hills in the other parts, which are mostly destitute of vegetation. The Chambal runs through the entire length of the southern and eastern boundaries of Dholpur, dividing it from Gwalior. The land alongside of the Chambal is broken up into mountain ravines about a hundred feet deep. There are sixteen places at which the river is crossed, but the principal ford is at Rajghat, near the capital, where the British Government maintains a ferry, the net income from which is divided equally between the States of Dholpur and Gwalior. The Banganga with its tributaries drains the northern and western portions of the State. The climate is generally healthy, and the rainfall averages about twenty-five inches.

The early history of Dholpur is shrouded in obscurity. The Tonwar Rajputs, who reigned at Delhi from about 792 to 1164 A. D., are said to have held the tract, while the western portion was certainly at one time under the occupation of the Jadon Rajputs of Karauli. The country was in a very unsettled state from the time of the overthrow of the Kanauj Kings by Muhammad Ghori in 1194 to that of Baber's invasion in 1526. A Rajah of Dholpur in 1487 waited upon Sultan Bahlol Lodi, and secured his friendship with some gold. In 1500 Rajah Manik Deo was attacked by Sikandar Lodi, and the fort of Dholpur itself was taken. The fort was restored to his successor, Rajah Vinayak Deo, only for a short time; for in 1504 it was placed under a Mahomedan officer.

In later years the State of Dholpur was destined to pass through the hands of various rulers, until it finally came into the possession of the family of its present rulers in 1806. On Baber's success at the battle of Khanua (1527), Dholpur, after a short resistance, came under the sway of the Moghul Emperors at Delhi. During Akbar's regime, it formed part

of the Subah of Agra, the Imperial Governors residing for a considerable period at Dholpur. Near it were fought the battles that decided the struggles for the Moghul Throne subsequent to the deaths of Shah Jahan and Aurangzeb. Taking advantage of the disturbances that followed the latter struggle, Rajah Kalyan Singh Bhadauria (from the Etawah District of the United Provinces) conquered Dholpur, and ultimately established himself there. His successors were undisturbed till 1761, when the Jat Rajah, Suraj Mal of Bharatpur, obtained possession of the State. He did not continue to rule long; for in 1775 Mirza Najaf Khan took it from him along with the other possessions of Bharatpur. When the Mirza died in 1782, it fell into the hands of Sindhia. At the beginning of the Mahratta war in 1803, it was overrun by the British, who, however, restored it to Sindhia according to the provisions of the Treaty of Sirji Anjangaon. In 1805 it was again acquired by the British under fresh arrangements with Sindhia. In the next year they made a grant of it along with the Districts of Bari and Rajakhera, and the Taluk of Sir Muttra to Maharaj Rana Kirat Singh in exchange for his territory of Gohad, which was handed over to Sindhia. Thus during a period of forty-five years Dholpur was tossed about among the Mahomedans, the Mahrattas and the British, changing masters no fewer than five times, until it finally came into the possession of the present ruling house.

The Chiefs of Dholpur are Jats of the Bamraolia clan. The first Maharaj Rana, Kirat Singh, died in 1836, and was succeeded by his son, Bhagwant Singh. He remained staunch to the British during the Mutiny, and rendered active military service. In recognition of his loyalty and good service, the Government of India conferred on him the title of K.C.S.I. In 1869 he was made a G.C.S.I. In 1873 he died, and was succeeded by Maharaj Rana Nihal Singh, grandson of Bhagwant Singh. Her Majesty was pleased to confer upon His Highness the distinction of an Honorary Majorship in the Central India Horse, and also the Order of the Companion of the Bath. The Rana received the frontier medal for services rendered in the Tirah campaign. He died in 1901 and was succeeded by his eldest son, Ram Singh. His Highness the Maharaj Rana Ram Singh was born in 1883. He studied at the Mayo College, Ajmer, and afterwards became a member of the Imperial Cadet Corps. He was invested with full powers in 1905 on attaining his majority. He was an Honorary Captain in the British army, and won the distinction of K.C.I.E., in 1909. He married a daughter of the Maharajah of Nabha; and as he died childless in 1911, he was succeeded by his younger brother, Maharaj Rana Udai Bhan Singh. His Highness, who is about twenty years old, is undergoing a course of training at the Cadet

Corps, the administration of the State being in the hands of a Superintendent aided by a Council of two members.

The population of Dholpur is 263,576 square miles, scattered over about 543 towns and villages. The chief occupation of the people is agriculture. Bajra, moth, jowar, cotton, wheat, gram and barley are generally cultivated. Irrigation is done mainly from wells. An important irrigation work, named Ram Sagar, after Maharaj Rana Ram Singh, has cost the Durbar two and a half lakhs of rupees. Red sandstone is quarried, and is used for building purposes.

Tahsildars, Nazims, and Judicial Officers administer civil and criminal justice. The Court, known as Ijlas Khas, is the highest tribunal in the State. It hears appeals against the orders of the Judicial Officer, and disposes of cases beyond his powers. The military force consists of 183 cavalry, 994 infantry, and 39 artillery with 17 serviceable guns. The police has on its rolls 770 men of all ranks. The State maintains about ten educational institutions. There are three dispensaries and one hospital.

The State encourages horse or pony breeding on a large scale. At the headquarters of each tahsil stallions are maintained, and at the annual Sarad fair, prizes are given for the best locally-bred animals. The normal revenue of the State is about ten lakhs. The British rupee is the sole legal tender. In the jail at Dholpur cotton carpets, rope, matting, &c., are manufactured. The Sarad fair is held annually in October for fifteen days, where a large traffic in merchandise, cattle and horses is carried on. The land revenue is paid in coin. The State is divided into five tahsils, namely Gird, Bari, Baseri, Kolari and Rajakhera, and the estate of Sir Muttra. There are only three towns—Dholpur, Bari, and Rajakhera. His Highness is entitled to a salute of fifteen guns.

The full titles of the Maharaj-Rana are—His Highness Rais-ud-daula Sipahdar-ul-Mulk, Maharaj Adhiraj Sri Sawai Maharaj Rana Udai Bhan Singh, Lokindar Bahadur, Diler Jang, Jai Deo.

Besides the Imperial post offices, the Durbar maintains a staff of runners for carrying official correspondence between the capital and the headquarters of the various districts. During the famine of 1877 the Durbar abolished customs duties on food grains, threw open its grass preserves, remitted land revenue, and started relief works and kitchens.

The present Rana is young and active and has mordern ideas of progress. During his rule the State stands every chance of being prosperous and contented.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH LOKENDRA GOVIND SINGH BAHADUR MAHARAJAH OF DATIA

DATIA is a treaty State in Central India under the Bundelkhand Agency and covers an area of 911 square miles. The country forms part of the flat plain enclosed by the Betwa and the Sind rivers and abounds in jungles of scanty growth. The nature of the soil is rocky. The mahua tree which is found in a few places is very valuable, its flowers being used as food, and for the extraction of liquor. The climate is subject to extremes of temperature, and the rainfall is about forty inches.

The ruling family of Datia has sprung from the house of Orchha, which is the head of the Bundela Rajput clan. In 1626 the famous Chief of Orchha, Bir Singh Dev, granted Datia in jaghir to his son, Bhagwan Rao, during whose regime this jaghir was considerably added to by conquests and by the grants got from the Moghul Emperors for services rendered. He died in 1656, and was succeeded by his son, Subha Karan, who distinguished himself by serving Shah Jahan in his expeditions to Balkh and Badakshan (1646-53). In the fratricidal war that followed the death of Shah Jahan, Subha Karan joined Aurangzeb and won the favour of the future Emperor. He died in 1683. After four Chiefs had ruled over the State, a dispute arose about the succession, which was referred to Rajah Udot Singh of Orchha as the head of the Bundela Rajput house. He decided in favour of Rajah Indrajit, and also helped him to secure the *gadi*. The Mahrattas had come to power by this time, and constantly ravaged the State till the difficulty was brought to an end by a treaty between the British and the Chief of Datia, Rajah Parichhat Singh, in 1804. In return for the assistance rendered to the British in subduing Bundelkhand, he obtained certain districts from them. In 1826 the Chief, being without issue, adopted, as his successor, Bijai Bahadur Singh, who was not connected with the ruling family. The Thakurs of Baroni, who were the direct descendants of Bhagwan Rao, were enraged at this passing over of their families in the choice of a boy for adoption and picked a

quarrel with him. The Supreme Government intervened and upheld the adoption. Rajah Bijai Bahadur Singh succeeded in 1839, and died in 1857 without issue.

Maharajah Bhawani Singh was adopted as his successor from the Bhasnai family, whose members are descended from Har Singh Deo, a brother of Rajah Bir Singh Deo of Orchha. He was a minor at the time of his accession, and the State was administered by the senior Rani as Regent. On her death the junior Rani became Regent. Her espousal of the claims of Arjun Singh, a natural son of Bijai Singh, brought on a civil war in the land, which was suppressed by the British troops. Arjun Singh was banished to Benares, and the Rani was placed in confinement at Datia. The Thakurs of Baroni again rebelled in 1861, putting forth their claims. The relations between the Thakurs and the Maharajah became strained ; but in 1882, the British Government decided that the Thakurs of Baroni were the holders of an independent grant of jaghir from the Moghul Emperors, though politically subordinate to the Maharajah.

In 1862 the Chief was granted a sanad of adoption by the British Government. The title of Maharajah was declared hereditary in 1865 and that of Lokendra in 1877. The Maharajah resigned his rights over the salt manufacture in return for an annual grant of Rs. 10,000. The lands necessary for the Betwa canal were ceded in 1882, and those for the Midland Railway in 1884. The currency was reformed in 1903 by the adoption of the British rupee as the sole legal tender. The Maharajah won the distinction of K.C.S.I. in 1896. The Chief of Datia is generally entitled to a salute of fifteen guns. It was increased to seventeen in 1900 as a mark of personal distinction in the case of this Ruler. His Highness the Maharajah Lokendra Sir Bhawani Singh Bahadur K.C.S.I., died in 1907, when his son, Govind Singh, born in 1885, succeeded him.

His Highness the Maharajah Lokendra Govind Singh Bahadur knows English, Sanskrit and Persian. After his accession to the *gadi*, he brought about many salutary reforms, the most prominent of them being the increase of salaries to the State officials, large remissions of revenue in many cases of over-taxation, and the payment of rents in cash instead of in kind. The relief measures adopted by him during the famine of 1907-08 were greatly appreciated by the Government of India.

The population of the State numbers about 200,000, of which the Hindus form 95 per cent. and the Mahomedans 4 per cent. The principal castes are Brahmins, Chamars and Rajputs (including Bundela and other Thakurs). The people support themselves by agriculture, and by general labour. The principal language spoken is Bundelkhandi. Irrigation is carried on from tanks. The so-called forest

in the State is merely a scrub jungle with a certain amount of grass land used for grazing purposes. Formerly the revenue was collected four times a year after valuing the standing crop, but now it is collected in cash in two instalments. Farmers, known as Mahate, are in possession of most of the villages, and pay the revenue assessed and sub-let the lands to cultivators. The farmers collect rents in kind. Jowar, wheat, cotton, pulses and poppy are raised. The Great Indian Peninsular Railway passes through the State with stations at Datia and Sonagir. The Durbar maintains a State postal system with its own stamps, with the Imperial postal system also working alongside of it.

The State contains three towns, Datia, Seondha and Nadigaon and 455 villages. The town of Datia is built on a series of low hills, on one of which is the beautiful palace of Bir Singh Deo, its high and massive pile looking down on the houses below. The palace which is square in shape is one of the finest specimens of Hindu architecture. The palace of Rajah Subha Karan, to the east of the town, on an elevated site, is a decent building. At Datia there are many substantial stone-built houses belonging chiefly to the Sardars of the State. Nadigaon is an old town, which has lost its importance on account of its isolation from roads and railways. The pargana of Nadigaon is held from Sindhia, and the Durbar pays him Rs. 9,500 annually, through the British Government. In the town are located a school and a State post office. Seondha was a place of historical importance in the fifteenth century. It has a school and a combined British and State post office. On the Sonagir Hill in the State, a hundred ancient Jain temples are still preserved. The hill, when seen from a distance, presents a picturesque appearance.

The Maharajah is the sole revenue and judicial administrator of the State. He has a Dewan to assist him. Civil cases are decided by means of punchayats. The gross revenue of the State amounts to ten lakhs, of which six lakhs are from the assignment of land to Jaghirdars.

The Durbar maintains an army of 300 infantry, 71 cavalry, and 165 artillery, with 48 serviceable guns. The regular police is small in number, and the village watch is done by the village officers and Chaukidars, who are drawn from the Khangar tribe. There are two Jails in the State. Datia has a High School, besides thirty other schools. The State also maintains a hospital at Datia, and a dispensary at Seondha.

Blessed with a young, energetic and enlightened Chief, the State may well look forward to a prosperous future.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SIR MADAN SINGH BAHADUR, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., MAHARAJAH OF KISHANGARH

KISHANGARH is a State in the centre of Rajputana, covering an area of 858 square miles with a population of 87,093, of whom 87 per cent. are Hindus, and the rest Mahomedans and Jains. The major portion of the Hindus are Vaishnavites, and the religious head of a sect of Vaishnavites, known as Nimbarak Sampradaya, has his headquarters at Salimabad. The Jats are most numerous, then come Mahajans, Brahmins, Gujars and Rajputs. The province consists of two narrow strips of land. The larger of these tracts in the northern portion is, on the whole, sandy, and three ranges of hills traverse it; and the southern portion is flat and fertile. The Rupnagar, the Mashi and the Dain are the chief rivers in the State.

The Chiefs of Kishangarh, who claim descent from Rajah Udai Singh of Jodhpur, are Rajputs of the Rathor clan. Rajah Udai Singh had two sons; and the younger of them, Kishan Singh, left his land of nativity in 1596, owing to a misunderstanding with his elder brother, Sur Singh, the then Ruling Chief, and betook himself to Ajmer. He had an audience with Akbar, who granted him the District of Hindaun, now a part of Jaipur; and subsequently he received another grant of Setholao and other districts for the part he had taken in getting back the imperial treasure stolen away by the Mers. It was in 1611 that he established the town of Kishangarh near Setholao, now in ruins, and from that time the State has been known by its present name. During the time of Akbar, Kishan Singh was addressed as Rajah, but it is on record that Jahangir conferred on him the distinction of Maharajah. He died in 1615, and the Chief, who ruled from 1644 to 1658, was one of the favourites of the Emperor, Shah Jahan, in whose behalf he fought many battles and won many victories. In the wars against Afghanistan, he rendered useful service on three occasions, for which he obtained the command of 5000 and some estates, besides the fort and district of Mandalgarh, now in Udaipur.

During the reign of the thirteenth Chief, Kalyan Singh (1792-1832), Kishangarh came under British protection. The relations between him and his nobles became strained, in consequence of which he repaired to Delhi and stayed there long, enjoying the kindness shown to him by the titular Emperor. The internal condition of the Province became intolerable, and the British Government called upon Kalyan Singh to return to Kishangarh immediately and to resume charge of the chiefship. As it was not possible for him to rule over the State, he desired the East India Company to take it on lease, but they refused to do so. In 1832 he resigned his powers in favour of his son, Mokham Singh, who was succeeded in 1840 by his adopted son, Prithwi Singh. In 1867 the British Government granted an annual compensation of Rs. 20,000 on account of the introduction of the railway. In 1877 his salute of guns was raised to seventeen as a mark of personal honour, and in 1879 another annual compensation of Rs. 25,000 was granted in return for the monopoly of manufacturing salt. He abolished customs-duties of all kinds, save those on spirits, opium, and intoxicating drugs. His Highness the Maharajah Prithwi Singh died in 1879, when his eldest son, Sardul Singh, ascended the *gadi*. His administration was very good, and he introduced many salutary reforms and brought the State to a prosperous condition. In recognition of his efficient management of the principality, the Government of India conferred on him the title of G. C. I. E. He died in 1900, when his only son, the present ruler, succeeded him.

His Highness the Maharajah Madan Singh was born in 1884. He was invested with full administrative powers in 1905, after he had served as an officer in the Imperial Cadet Corps. He was made a K.C.I.E. in 1908 and a K.C.S.I. at the Delhi Durbar of 1911, with the honorary rank of Major in the British Army. He is entitled to a salute of fifteen guns.

The Maharajah carries on the administration of the State with a Council of two members, the senior of whom is the Dewan. The Revenue Commissioner is in charge of the Kishangarh District; and in each district there are several Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars, who attend to the revenue work. The State has its own codes and enactments framed on the lines of those obtaining in the British territory. The Council is the highest court in the State, and the Maharajah alone can pass sentences of death. The revenue of the State is about five lakhs. The Durbar has its own coinage. The State rupee is now equivalent to eleven annas of the British coin.

The majority of the population are agriculturists. In places where the soil is sandy and the rainfall scanty, the principal crops are *bajra*

jowar, mung and *moth*. In the interior of the State where the rainfall is very heavy, maize and *til* are grown, while the spring crop comprises barley, wheat, gram and cotton. Irrigation is carried on from wells and tanks. The language generally spoken by the people is a kind of Dhundari, and in the north there are many who speak Marwari.

Garnets can be had on a large scale. The Silora stone quarries produce excellent slabs for roofing and flooring. There are white marble quarries at Tonkra, a pink variety at Narwar, and a black one at Jhak. A black mineral paint was discovered in 1886.

Since 1755-56 there have been series of famines. On all such occasions, the relief measures adopted by the Durbar were highly praised for their effective and economical nature. When there was a famine ten years ago, a million units were saved at a cost of over a lakh of rupees.

The Rajputana-Malwa railway passes through the northern portion of the State from south-west to north-east, its length within the territory being about thirteen miles, with one station at the capital.

The army consists of 220 regulars (84 cavalry and 136 infantry) and 1739 irregulars (836 cavalry and 903 infantry). The Jaghirdars are responsible for the irregular cavalry. There are 65 guns and 35 artillery-men. The police has a strength of 511 men of all ranks, including 187 Rajput sepoys from the irregular infantry and 91 village chaukidars. There are five jails.

Seventeen of the thirty educational institutions in the State are maintained by the Durbar. At the capital there is the Maharajah's High School. One hospital and three dispensaries provide the necessary medical aid. The State has its own postal system and postage stamps, and maintains thirteen post offices and ten runners over a length of sixty-five miles. There are also three combined Imperial post and telegraph offices and one ordinary post office.

The town and fort of Kishangarh, as they are situated on the banks of a lake, form a picturesque scene. The chief industries are weaving, dyeing, the cutting of precious stones, and the manufacture of drinking vessels and betel-nut boxes from *khas-khas* grass. The capital has also a municipality. The climate in general is dry and healthy, although malaria prevails in October and November.

The full titles of the Maharajah are :—Major His Highness Umdai Rajahi Buland Makan Maharajah Dhiraj Sir Madan Singh Bahadur, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E.

Kishangarh is one of the many States in Northern India ruled by young and energetic Chiefs specially trained for administrative work, and it is sure to thrive well.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SIR KESRI SINGH BAHADUR, K.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., MAHARAJAH OF SIROHI

SIROHI is a Native State in the south-west of Rajputana, and its Chiefs claim descent from Lachhman Raj, the Ruler of Nandol in the Jodhpur State, about the end of the tenth century. They are Deora Rajputs, named after one of their great Chiefs, Deoraj. They are an off-shoot of the renowned Chauhan clan, from whom sprang Prithwi Raj, the last of the Hindu rulers of Delhi. About two hundred years later, the Chauhans who had been driven from their home proceeded to the west, settled down at Bhinmal and Sanchor (now in the Jodhpur State), and captured the fort of Jalor from the Paramara Rajputs. Then the province, now called Sirohi, was in the possession of the Paramaras, with Chandravati as their capital. The Deoras captured Chandravati after repeated fighting. About the beginning of the fourteenth century, the Deoras massacred by a stratagem a great portion of the Paramaras and seized Mount Abu where they had taken refuge. It would appear that Rao Sobha was the founder of the old town of Sirohi in 1405, but his sons established the present capital in 1425.

Rao Surthan, the Chief of Sirohi, who was a contemporary of Akbar and Jahangir, asserted his independence and declined to be a vassal of the Moghul Emperors although their army had defeated him on several occasions. All through the eighteenth century, Sirohi underwent great difficulties on account of its constant wars with Jodhpur, and the repeated depredations of the Mina tribes. In 1808 Maharajah Man Singh of Jodhpur seized Rao Udaibhan on his way back from the banks of the Ganges after performing his father's funeral rites, and compelled him to pay a ransom of five lakhs. To make up this sum, he was forced to oppress his subjects, when they and the nobles joined together and deposed and imprisoned him. They unanimously selected his brother, Sheo Singh, to rule over the State. The Ruler of Jodhpur despatched an army to liberate Udaibham, but without success. In 1817 Sheo Singh applied to the

British for protection. Just then, the Jodhpur Durbar put forth their claims for supremacy over Sirohi. The British Government held a thorough enquiry and refused to recognise the claim of the Jodhpur Chief. In September 1823, a treaty was concluded between the Chief of Sirohi and the British Government, and a Political Agent was appointed. All the turbulent elements such as the Minas and the Thakurs who had disturbed the progress of the State, were put down, and an organised system of government was introduced. When everything assumed its normal condition and order was thoroughly restored, the Political Agent was recalled in 1832. According to the conditions of the treaty, Sheo Singh was treated as a Regent, but on the death of Udaibhan in 1847, he was recognised as the Ruling Chief. His valuable services during the Mutiny of 1857 pleased the Supreme Government so much that they reduced to one-half the tribute of Rs. 15,000 payable by him; and in 1868 it was put down at Rs. 6,881-4-0 (British coinage). Sheo Singh passed away in 1862, and his son, Umed Singh, succeeded him. The famine of 1868-69, the disturbance caused by the Thakur of Bhatana, and the predatory incursions of the Bhils, brought much misery to the State. In 1870 the Political charge of the State was transferred to the Commandant of the Erinpura Irregular Force with special powers. This officer put down every disturbance with an iron hand. His Highness the Rao Umed Singh died in 1875, when his only son, the present Chief, was placed on the *gadi*.

His Highness the Maharajah Dhiraj Kesri Singh was born on the 20th June 1857. The title of Maharao was conferred on him as a hereditary distinction in 1889. He was made a K. C. S. I. in 1895, and a G. C. I. E. in 1901. At the Delhi Durbar of 1911, His Imperial Majesty was pleased to confer on His Highness the hereditary distinction of Maharajah Dhiraj.

The State suffered much from the famine of 1899-1900, and His Highness, with his usual liberality, threw open the reserve forest for the use of his subjects, established depôts for buying fuel and grass, and distributed grain to the poor. Relief works and poor houses were established. Nearly two million units were thus relieved at a cost of about a lakh and a half. Agriculturists obtained an advance of half a lakh; remissions came up to a quarter lakh; and suspensions of land revenue to two lakhs. On this occasion His Highness was also generous enough to distribute private charities of different kinds.

The Maharajah controls the affairs of the State assisted by the Dewan, the Revenue Officer, the Judicial Officer, and the Superintendent of Customs and Forests. There are fourteen tahsils, each under a Tahsildar with two assistants. The Tahsildars can inflict two months' imprisonment, and levy a fine of Rs. 100 and can also hear civil suits up

to Rs. 300. The Judicial Officer exercises the powers of a District Judge and decides cases above Rs. 300. The Maharajah, who alone can pass sentences of death, holds the final appellate authority.

The area of the State is 1,964 square miles, with a population of 189,173 spread over 413 towns and villages. The climate in general is dry and healthy. Earthquakes are common in Abu, but they are invariably slight. The chief language spoken by the people is a kind of Marwari.

Of the archæological monuments in the State are Abu, the remains of the very old town of Chandravati, the fort of Vasantgarh which bears an inscription of Rajah Charmalat who ruled in 625 A. D., Nandia which has a Jain temple in good order, though built in the tenth century, and Wasa with a temple dedicated to Surya and built probably in the eleventh or the twelfth century.

The normal revenue of the State is a little over four lakhs. The British coin is current in the State. Sirohi has more than one hundred infantry and five useful guns. The police force has 662 men, 77 of whom are mounted. The Chief is entitled to a salute of fifteen guns.

In point of education, Sirohi heads the list of the States of Rajputana, which is due to the fact that the Europeans and Anglo-Indians at Abu and Abu Road form a fair portion of the population. The school at the capital teaches Urdu, Hindi, and a little English. There are many elementary schools, and five hospitals and one dispensary.

Abu, also known as Ar-budha (the hill of wisdom), is a famous mountain in the south of the State, 4000 feet above the sea-level. For the major portion of the year the climate is pleasant and healthy. The mean temperature is about 69° varying from 59° in January to 79° in May. On account of the heavy rainfall, Abu forms the richest spot in Rajputana in point of vegetation. Abu is a civil and military station. A municipal committee, the Secretary of which is the Magistrate of Abu, looks after the sanitation, lighting, etc., of the civil population. On the hills there are two hospitals, one military, and the other civil. There are many fine and excellently built Jain temples. At Abu Road are located two railway schools, and at Abu are the High School, the Lawrence School, and the Municipal School. The military population numbers about two hundred men and thirty families; while the Residency of the Agent to the Governor-General with nearly a hundred scattered houses, the bazaars and the lines of the detachment of the 43rd Erinpura regiment, constitute the civil population.

This ancient little Rajput State has many facilities for the spread of education and civilisation, and it has, under the sympathetic rule of the present Chief, a prosperous and progressive administration assured to it.



H. H. THE RAJAH OF DEWAS (Senior Branch).

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH SIR TUKOJI RAO III, BAPU SAHIB PAWAR, K. C. S. I., RAJAH OF DEWAS (SENIOR BRANCH)

THE Rulers of the Dewas State (senior and junior branches) belong to an ancient dynasty and directly represent a house which, during the last two thousand years, has at different times produced kings and princes whose fame will always endure in the annals of India. The greatest of these Parmar Kings and Princes was the renowned King of Ujjain (Malwa), the great Vikramaditya. It was after this illustrious Emperor that the Era, which is still prevalent in Northern India, the Samvat Era, takes its name, and this in itself is evidence of his great power and renown. According to that Era, it is now 1970 years since he lived and ruled over his vast dominions.

Next in importance to this monarch was King Bhoj. He ruled over Malwa in the eighth century A. D., and during his reign, his sway extended as far as the Tungabhadra river in the Deccan. He was widely known for his great literary tastes and attainments, and for his efforts to maintain justice and to secure the prosperity of his subjects. It was in his court that the famous Sanskrit poet, Kalidas, flourished. Bhoj made Dhara Nagari (Dhar) his capital instead of Ujjain, and it continued to be such for a very long period after him.

After King Bhoj began the gradual decline of the Parmar or Pawar dynasty. Before the lapse of four centuries, this famous house had lost all its conquests one after another and the additions it had made to the Kingdom, till the region of Malwa alone remained in their possession. Then came a crushing blow in the fourteenth century when the Mahomedans conquered Malwa. The various branches of the Pawar House left the country and migrated into different parts of India to try their fortunes and found principalities elsewhere. The oldest line descended from the great kings Vikramaditya and Bhoj, and the immediate descendants of the last few titular sovereigns of Malwa migrated into the present Mewar (in Rajputana), succeeded in

establishing themselves in Bijolya, and achieved by their own valour high recognition from the great Maharaṇa of Chitore (Udaipur).

Early in the sixteenth century, there arose troubles and dissensions at Bijolya. The then ruling Rajah of Bijolya had four sons by his two wives, one by the first and three by the second. The eldest son by the first wife, named Shambhu Sinha, incurred the displeasure of his father. Attended by a few followers, he bade good-bye to his father and his family possessions, left Mewar with a determination to establish a new principality, and entered the Maharashtra (Deccan), which then offered a very good field for adventurous men like Shambu Sinha. He encamped himself near Ahmednagar, where he founded a village and called it Sukhawadi, *i. e.*, hamlet of happiness. It was later on called Supa, a corruption of the original name. It was at this time (about 1615 A. D.) that Ahmednagar, one of the five famous Mahomedan kingdoms of the Deccan, was on the decline, and a good many adventurers, mostly Hindus of the Deccan, taking advantage of its weakness, tried to establish principalities of their own.

The Parmar Chief, Shambu Sinha, was not slow to make the best of this chaotic situation in the Maharashtra. He soon succeeded in founding a State for himself comprising a great part of the modern Ahmednagar and Poona Districts. Between 1615 and 1660 he was often hampered in his achievements by the forces of Shivaji the Great. Before he could complete his preparations to overthrow Shivaji's power and regain his lost possessions, he was treacherously killed by one of the neighbouring Mahratta Chieftains.

Shambu Sinha Maharajah had an infant son, named Krishnaji, who was carefully brought up by his mother. Hs showed signs of promise and bade fair to turn out a splendid soldier. His mother, realising the prudence of yielding to Shivaji, whose power was increasing rapidly and who had already been formally crowned Emperor of the Maharashtra, decided to send her son, who was then only sixteen years old, to Raigarh, the then capital of the Maharashtra. Shivaji was greatly pleased with this young Parmar Chief, Krishnaji, and having granted him pardon, restored to him all his father's possessions and recognised him as one of the high feudatory Chiefs of his Empire. This was how the fortunes of this historical and ancient Parmar dynasty came to be bound up with those of the Mahratta nation. This happened about 1680, just before the death of Shivaji. In the long struggle that ensued after the death of this monarch between Aurangzeb and the Mahrattas, Bubaji, the eldest son of Krishnaji, with his two younger brothers, Rayaji and Keruji, displayed extraordinary valour and did his utmost to drive the

Mahomedan army out of the District of Ahmednagar and its surroundings In recognition of his great deeds he received the title of "Sapta Sahasra Senapati" (Commander of 7,000 troops) from the Mahratta Emperor, Rajaram Chhatrapati. Bubaji had two sons, Kaluji and Sambhaji. Kaluji's rule was one of peace and happiness for the State. He had four sons, and the eldest, named Krishnaji, succeeded him. Manaji, the youngest of the four, remained by Krishnaji's side and served him, while the second son, Tukoji Rao, played a leading part in the history of the Mahrattas.

Emperor Shahu ordered Tukoji Rao and his younger cousin, Udaji Rao,(son of Sambhaji Rao, Kaluji's younger brother) to accompany the Peshwa, Baji Rao I, in his invasion of Northern India in 1738. In this expedition, the renowned Generals of the Peshwa, *viz.*, Ranoji Rao Sindhia and Malhar Rao Holkar played an important part, and Tukoji Rao Pawar and Udaji Rao Pawar also rendered valuable service. It was the army of these two Pawar Chiefs that fought the first battle in Malwa against the forces of the Delhi Emperor. The Pawar forces, forming the vanguard of the whole Mahratta army, had naturally to bear the whole brunt of the first fight which took place near the village named Tirala (not far from Dhar). The Mahomedan Governor of Malwa was completely routed, and no more real fighting was needed to subdue the country. One other battle was fought at Bhopal between the Mahomedans and the Mahrattas, and in this also Tukoji Rao gave valuable aid to the Mahratta cause, and his services were later on duly recognised by Shahu Chhatrapati, and the Peshwa. In 1739 after the conquest of Malwa, which covered the whole of the country between the Chambal and the Narbada, the region was parcelled out among the four Mahratta Chiefs, who had played the most conspicuous part in this conquest. Under the command of Shri Shahu Chhatrapati Maharajah, Dewas and Dhar fell to the share of Tukoji Rao and Udaji Rao respectively. It may be stated here that Tukoji Rao, the founder of the Dewas Principality, was accompanied in this campaign by his younger brother, Jivaji Rao.

This was how Tukoji Rao I carved out the principality of Dewas, and his younger cousin, Udaji Rao, that of Dhar. Thus, after a lapse of nearly 400 years and through many vicissitudes, the lineal descendants of the great kings, Vikramaditya and Bhoj, came back to Malwa, not to rule over the whole ancestral country as independent sovereigns, but to exercise sway over some portions thereof under the nominal suzerainty of the Mahratta Emperors. Tukoji Rao got the title of "Pratinidhi" (Viceroy or Governor) from Emperor Shahu, and he was generally known in those parts as Subahdar (Governor). Tukoji Rao added to the prestige and power of the State by levying tribute from some of the Rajput States,

thus making them acknowledge his suzerainty. It was in one of these expeditions in Rajputana that he came to an untimely end. While he was camping at Ajmer in 1751, a sudden storm burst on his tent and a pole fell on his head and caused his death.

He had no sons, and his widow, therefore, adopted her nephew (Tukoji Rao's elder brother, Krishnaji Rao's son) under the style of Maharajah Krishnaji Rao I. Krishnaji Rao spent most of his time in trying to extend the limits of his State, by making repeated invasions against Delhi. For twelve years he remained at Muttra rendering help to the great Mahdaji Sindhia of Gwalior, and in keeping the Emperor Shah Alam as a close prisoner of the Mahrattas. While on his way to the Deccan, he died at Burhanpur in 1789. He was also childless and was, therefore, succeeded by the son of his elder brother (Ruler of the Supa State) under the name of Tukoji Rao II. Maharajah Tukoji Rao had to meet with great many difficulties, which, however, he succeeded in tiding over. The most important event of his reign was the conclusion of the Treaty of 1818 with the East India Company. H. H. Tukoji Rao II died in 1828 and was succeeded by his son, Rukmangad Rao. During the Mutiny of 1857, His Highness remained loyal to the Paramount Power, and his services obtained recognition. His Highness married the two daughters of His Highness the Maharajah Sayaji Rao I, the Gaekwar of Baroda. Before his death in 1860, Rukmangad Rao Khase Sahib Maharaj adopted a son from the eldest Pawar House of Supa.

During the minority of His Highness Krishnaji Rao II, his mother, Maharani Yamunabai Sahiba, conducted the affairs of the State. His Highness took for his consort Her Highness Tara Rajah Sahiba, the daughter of His Highness the Maharajah Jayaji Rao Sindhia of Gwalior. His Highness married a second wife, Her Highness the Dowager Rani Tara Rajah Sahiba, who is still alive. His Highness died in 1899. On the 4th April 1900, he was succeeded by the eldest son of his elder brother, Shrimant Anand Rao Pawar Nana Sahib Maharaj ishwas Rao Bahadur, under the title of His Highness Sapta Sahasra Senapati Pratinidhi Shri Tukoji Rao III Pawar Bapu Sahib Maharaj.

His Highness Tukoji Rao III was born on the 1st January 1888. He received his education at the Daly College, Indore, and at the Mayo College, Ajmer. He joined the Chiefs College at Indore in November 1899 and left it for the Mayo College in 1903 His Highness completed his college course and passed the Diploma Examination in 1905 with distinction. It was then decided to give him administrative and general training, and for this purpose Captain H. Stewart's services were lent by the Government of India, After a year Captain Stewart left, and his place was taken

by Mr. M. K. Darling, I. C. S., a very capable and painstaking officer, who became an intimate friend of His Highness. To supplement his training the Prince made an extensive tour through India, Burma and Ceylon. In the beginning of 1908, the Government of India invested him with full administrative powers.

It is now a little over four years since His Highness began to govern the State personally, and in this short period the finances of the Province and the general condition of the people have greatly improved, and the tone of the administration has become decidedly higher. It is sufficient to state that his great administrative skill, his high sense of duty, his zeal for the improvement of the State and of the condition of his subjects, are fully evident from his public speeches, while the Government of India and their representatives in Central India have also testified to his great abilities. When His Highness assumed the reins of Government, the State was heavily indebted, but now it is free from all liabilities. A regular settlement of land revenue was lately carried out, which has resulted in a general increase of revenue and in the increased prosperity of the cultivators. Being much interested in education, His Highness sometime ago built a girls' school and has recently ordered the construction of a new first grade vernacular school in one of the districts. It is pleasing to note that in addition to paying off the State debts, His Highness has been spending every year large sums on new public works, His Highness's new palace and the King Edward Memorial Arch being the most conspicuous amongst them. Almost every department in the State came under his direct supervision and was placed on a much better footing than before. At the invitation of His Excellency the Viceroy, His Highness attended the Delhi Coronation Durbar of 1903. His Highness has been successively elected by his brother Princes and Chiefs for the last six years as a Member of the Managing Committee of the Daly College, and was the President for two successive years from 1907 to December 1909 of the General Mahratta Conference. At the Delhi Durbar of 1911, His Imperial Majesty was pleased to confer on His Highness the distinction of K, C. S. I.

This memoir will not be complete without a reference to Sardar Pandit Narayan Prasad Morchhaldar Sarkhwas, a Malwi Shrigor Brahmin, whom His Highness appointed as his Minister (Dewan) soon after coming to the *gadi* in 1908, and who has co-operated loyally with the Prince in effecting all the improvements in the State and in its general administration as well. His remarkable services have received public appreciation, not only from His Highness but also from the chief representative of the Government of India in those parts. Before his appoint-

ment as Dewan, Sardar Pandit Narayan Prasad had served His Highness and the State in several capacities, notably, first as His Highness's tutor and guardian, and then as Household Officer and Private Secretary.

Soon after the assumption of ruling powers, His Highness married on the 21st March 1908 the only daughter of His Highness the Chhatrapati Maharajah Sahib of Kolhapur, the social head of the Mahratta nation and the premier Mahratta Prince. On the 4th April 1910, a most joyful event took place in the State in the birth of a son and heir to His Highness. The little Yuvraj is named Shrimant Yuvraj Vikram Sinha Rao Nanasahib Maharaj.

His Highness has a very enthusiastic and capable colleague in the person of his brother, Shrimant Jagdeo Rao Pawar Bhausahib Maharaj Vishwas Rao Bahadur, who is twenty years of age, and who is of immense help to His Highness in the administration of the State. He was educated with His Highness in the Chiefs' College at Indore and at Ajmer, and was later given a general training in the different branches of administration. Throughout his educational career, he showed marks of high ability. He has married the only daughter of Sardar Vaghoji Rao Raje Shirke, a first-class nobleman of the Baroda State.

The area of the Senior Branch is 446 square miles, and the population 74,258, spread over two towns and 238 villages. The common language is the Malwi dialect of Rajasthani. The State is divided into five parganas, each under a Kamasdar. The military force consists of sixty-two cavalry, seventy-nine infantry, sixty-nine *sibandi*, and eighteen artillery-men with two guns. The regular police has on its rolls 265 men and the rural police 306 men.

The revenue of the State is about five and a half lakhs of rupees exclusive of the alienations which yield annually a lakh. His Highness is entitled to a salute of fifteen guns.

This ancient State is heir to many noble traditions, and under their influence and with the co-operation of the present talented Dewan, Sardar Pandit Narayan Prasad, His Highness is sure to make a mark as an enlightenend and sympathetic ruler.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH
MALHAR RAO BABA SAHIB POWAR
RAJAH OF DEWAS (JUNIOR BRANCH.)

Dewas States, although popularly called the Senior and Junior Branches, are twin Treaty Principalities in the Malwa Political charge of the Central India Agency. Separate Chiefs rule over the two States, sharing the same capital town and having their prescribed shares in the same territory. The Octroi and Excise Departments are worked conjointly, though the Educational and Medical Departments have been separated and each Raj manages its own department by itself.

In accordance with the Treaty of 1818 entered into with the East India Company, the State pays annually to the Government Rs. 16,800 Hali in commutation of the obligation to provide a quota of troops. No other tribute is paid to the Government of India or to any other State. In 1862 the State received an adoption Sanad. The Ruler is entitled to a salute of fifteen guns. He exercises full powers in judicial, revenue and all other general administrative matters.

The present Ruler, His Highness the Rajah Malhar Rao Baba Sahib Maharaj Powar, born on the 18th August 1877, succeeded to the *gadi* after the demise of his uncle and adoptive father, the late Ruler. He was married on the 16th March 1895; and after the premature death of his wife in 1903, His Highness has not married again. After the completion of his education at the Daly College, Indore, His Highness was invested with ruling powers in 1897 by the Hon'ble Colonel (now Sir) D. W. K. Barr, then Agent to the Governor-General for Central India. Among the birthday honours of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor, on the 14th June 1912, a Kaisar-I-Hind Gold Medal was bestowed on His Highness. The Powars have been renowned as the lovers and patrons of arts and letters. His Highness well maintains the tradition of his ancestors like Rajah Bhoja and Vikramaditya. Education in the vernaculars as well as medical relief are given free in the State. In order to broaden the basis of Government His Highness has lately established a Council.

His Highness is an incarnation of kindness, and his brain is always busy with the thoughts of ameliorating the condition of the cultivating

class. Unceasing efforts are being made with a view to instil in them a sense of permanency of tenure; and owing to the large and liberal remissions given two years ago, the general condition of this class has been improved beyond all expectations.

His Highness is always untiring in introducing reforms in any shape which are likely to be conducive to the general well-being of the people. Thus Credit Co-operative Societies have been established, whereby the material condition of this section of his subjects has considerably altered for the better; and, further, with a view to associate his people with the administrative machinery, Panchayats have been established in all the leading villages.

On the 19th April 1914, a Panchayat Conference was held and proved a success beyond all doubt. So far this movement has derived all the advantages that accrue from it, with none of the disadvantages that are supposed to come in its wake.

His Highness has received invaluable help in all these matters from Capt. R. C. Burke, who is well known in the Southern-Mahratta country for his most successful administration of the State of Sangli. His services were lent to this Raj as the Personal Friend and Adviser to His Highness and, with the help of his experience and ability, His Highness has been able to put into actual shape many of his long-cherished projects for the achievement of the welfare of his people.

His Highness is always ready to undertake any work of public utility that tends to establish persons and mainatain peace, which is evident from the fact that this State is the first in Central India, to make the depredatory class of the Sansis to settle peaceably. Lands have been given to them with a view to turn them to the noble and peaceful pursuit of agriculture.

His Highness is saturated with the idea of toleration in religion and has an enthusiasm and respect and reverence for the old customs and traditions. The State owns a Theosophical Lodge, and quite recently a branch of the Shri Bharat Dharma Mahamandal with its head-quarters at Benares was opened under the auspicious presence of its founder, Swami Shri Dhyananandji.

In 1864 and 1890 both States' ceded lands required for the opening of railways. The newly opened branch of the B. B. and C. I. Railway, Nagda-Muttra-Railway, passes through Gadgucha, the seat of the Tehsil of a Pergana of that name, and efforts are now being made to build up a suburb round the Station. In 1881 all transit duties on salt were abolished in return for an annual compensation. In 1885 all the remaining transit duties except those on opium were also done away with.

The area of the State is 417 square miles, and the population, according to the Census of 1911, is 62,957, spread over two towns and 250 villages. For administrative purposes, the State is divided into four Perganas with head-quarters at Dewas, Sarangpur, Gadgucha, and Padlia. The State has the gross revenue of Rs. 4,25,000.

The army of the State consists of 59 cavalry, 116 infantry, and 23 artillerymen with four guns. For watch and ward, there is a police force of 158, of whom 41 belong to the regular police and 117 to the rural police.

The British rupee is accepted as the legal tender.

Education in the State is liberally supported by His Highness who has recently introduced a system of free and compulsory education.

The two Rajs are for all political purposes two different States, rules of extradition existing between them. Excellent arrangements have been made for the water-supply of the town.

The town of Sarangpur is noted for the remains of its ancient Hindu and Jain temples. It came into prominence so far back as 1298, during the days of Sarang Singh Khichi, after whom it was named. In the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, it became a large and flourishing place. Sarangpur is spoken of as the scene of the death of the beautiful Rupmati, the reputed Hindu wife of Baz Bahadur. She was a singer and composer of remarkable talents, and her songs are still sung all over Northern India. Her husband was also accomplished in music and in composing Hindu songs. In 1734 Sarangpur came under the control of the Mahrattas, and then under the Rulers of Dewas, Indore and Gwalior, and also under the Pindari leader, Karim Khan. Dewas got Sarangpur by the treaty of 1818. The town was once noted for its fine muslins, and this industry, although gasping its last, can still compete very favourably with the fine muslin products of any other part of India. The State is seriously contemplating its restoration on some firmer foundation. There are still some old buildings in a dilapidated condition, such as Rupmati ka gumbaz or Rupmati's hall, a Jamma Musjid, built in 1649, and a mosque called the "Pir Jan Ki Bhati".

Amongst its other notable industries is a Soap Factory, situated at Dewas, started by a local gentleman with the help of the State.

From March 1914 the Minister of the State is Shrimant Sadashiv Rao *alias* Khasesaheb Maharaj Powar, the brother of His Highness who received his education in England.

With a sympathetic, broad-minded and liberal ruler, whose sole thought is the welfare of the subjects, assisted by kindred spirits, a prosperous future is the heritage of the State.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAWAL SIR BIJAI SINGH BAHADUR, K. C. I. E., MAHARAWAL OF DUNGARPUR

THE Dungarpur State is in the south of Rajputana covering an area of 1,447 square miles. Except in the south and east, the country is traversed by low hills grown with scrub jungles containing cactus and gum trees. The chief rivers are the Mahi and the Som. Among the smaller rivers may be mentioned the Majam, the Vatrak, the Bhadar and the Moran. The climate in general is dry and healthy, and the rainfall averages about twenty-seven inches.

Dungarpur, with its off-shoot Banswara, comprised originally the tract of land known as the Bagar, which was noted, according to an old couplet, for five things, *viz.*, water, rocks, leaves, foul language and the looting of clothes. The great part of the Bagar land before the thirteenth century is known to have been inhabited by the Bhils, the rest having been occupied by the Chauhan and Paramara Rajputs. Mahup and Rahup, sons of Karan Singh, the Chief of Mewar, quarrelled with each other, and the former, repairing to his mother's clan of the Chauhans of Bagar, slowly extended his sway over the Bhils. One of his successors, named Bir Singh, founded Dungarpur town and made it his capital, calling it after the Bhil Chieftain, Dungaria, whom he had defeated and killed. After the battle of Khanua in 1527, in which Rawal Udai Singh of Bagar was killed, his sons, Prithwi Raj and Jagmal, effected a partition of the territory, making the Mahi river their boundary. Prithwi Raj remained at Dungarpur, while Jagmal went and founded Banswara. When the Moghuls held the supreme power in the land, Dungarpur became a subject State, paying them an annual tribute. It then passed into the hands of the Mahrattas. In 1818 the Rawal entered into an alliance, offensive and defensive, with the British, by which the State was freed from the clutches of the Mahrattas.

The tribute payable to the Government of India was after some variations fixed at Rs 17,500 in 1904. Maharawal Bijai Singh, the present ruler, born in 1887, succeeded his grandfather, Udai Singh, in 1898, and was invested with full powers on attaining his majority. The Maharawal was educated at the Mayo College, Ajmer. During the minority of His Highness, the administration was carried on by a Political Agent, assisted by a Chief Executive Officer, and a Council of two consultative members.

The Ruler of Dungarpur bears the titles of *Rai Rayan Maharawal* and is entitled to a salute of fifteen guns. His Highness won the distinction of K. C. I. E. in June 1912, among the birthday honours of His Majesty the King-Emperor

The population numbers 1,59,192, occupying about 632 towns and villages. The Bhils form more than a third of the people, while the Brahmins, Rajputs, Patels, and Mahajans make up the remainder. The principal occupation is agriculture, which is mostly in the hands of the Bhils. The destructive forest cultivation generally adopted by them is suppressed, and about a fifth of the area under cultivation is irrigated by means of wells, tanks and streams. Maize and rice form the staple food crops. Barley, wheat, gram, poppy and sugarcane are also raised. Pulses, oil-seeds, turmeric, opium and mahua flowers form the main exports, and rice, sugar, cloth, salt and metals constitute the principal imports.

No railway line runs through the State. The Durbar maintains a small number of *dak* runners to carry official and private correspondence between the capital and the district headquarters. During the famine of 1899 the State incurred an expenditure of 1·8 lakhs, and in that of 1901-1902, 1·5 lakhs. The State loan now stands at only about Rs. 1,55,000. Over 1·5 lakhs have been repaid since His Highness took over charge of the administration. His Highness exercises full and unrestricted powers in both civil and criminal matters.

The State has a normal revenue of about two lakhs, of which 1·4 lakhs go to its up-keep. The Chittori of Dungarpur, the Salim Shahi of Pratapgarh, and the British coins were current until 1904; but now the British rupee is the sole legal tender.

A police force of more than 200 men of all ranks is maintained at a cost of about Rs. 22,000 a year. There are about ten schools, and two hospitals. Vaccination is becoming popular.

This State is governed by a young ruler who realises his responsibility for the happiness of his people. It is sure to prosper under his care.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAWAT SIR RAGHUNATH SINGH BAHADUR, K. C. I. E., MAHARAWAT OF PARTABGARH

PARTABGARH, once known as the Kanthal (border or boundary between Malwa and Guzerat), is a State in the south of Rajputana, with an area of 886 square miles and a population of 62,704.

Bika, a descendant of Rana Mokal of Mewar, founded the town of Deolia or Deogarh in 1561. One of his successors, Pratap Singh, established the town of Partabgarh in 1698, and the State has ever since been called after that town. It is called by some Deolia-Partabgarh, a compound of the names of the former and the present capitals of the principality. The State came under British protection in 1818. The present Maharawat is Raghunath Singh, born in 1859. His Highness succeeded by adoption in 1890, and obtained full administrative power in 1891.

In 1899-1900 there was a thorough failure of both the harvests as the rainfall was one-third less than the average. His Highness introduced an adequate and efficient system of relief, and remitted the land revenue for the year. Advances to agriculturists, and remissions and suspensions of land revenue, amounted to over a lakh and a half.

At the Delhi Durbar of 1911, His Highness the Maharawat obtained the distinction of K. C. I. E. In June 1912, his son and heir married the daughter of H. E. the Maharajah Deb Shum Shere Jung Bahadur Rana, Ex-Minister and Commander-in-Chief of Nepal.

A Kamdar (Minister) assists the Maharawat in administering the State, and the Raj Sabha, a committee of eleven members, helps him in the disposal of judicial matters.

In the State there are 413 towns and villages. Partabgarh, the capital, is the only town of importance. The army of the State consists of 13 gunners, 22 cavalry and 76 infantry. The police has 170 men of all ranks, including six mounted men. There are three schools, of which one is for the use of the sons of Thakurs, Nobles and rich people. There is only one hospital. The normal revenue is a little over two lakhs. The Chief is entitled to a salute of fifteen guns.

The State enjoys all the advantages of a settled and progressive government, and the people lead a contented and happy life.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SIR THUTOB NAMGYAL BAHADUR, K. C. I. E., MAHARAJAH OF SIKKIM.

THE Native State of Sikkim is in the Eastern Himalayas pierced by several passes and has a climate varying between the tropical heat of the valleys and the cold of the biting snowy ranges. It covers an area of 2818 square miles with a population of 88,169.

It is traditionally believed that the forefathers of the present Chiefs of Sikkim originally resided in the neighbourhood of Lhasa in Tibet. About the middle of the seventeenth century, three Tibetan monks, professing the 'red cap' sect of Budhism, unable to tolerate the supremacy of the Gelukpa sect in Tibet, proceeded to Puntso Namgye, the then chief member of the family from which the present rulers of Sikkim hail, and, converting the people of Sikkim to their religion, installed him as the Rajah of their country. In 1788 and 1792 Sikkim suffered severely from the Gurkha invasions; but on both the occasions there was no material loss to the State. In 1814 when the Nepaul War broke out, the English took possession of the Morang and entered into a treaty with the Rajah of Sikkim, who accepted it only too eagerly with a view to wreak his vengeance on the Gurkhas. The war coming to an end in 1816, the British Government presented the Rajah with a large territory out of what Nepaul had ceded to them. In 1835 the Rajah gave away Darjeeling to the English and accepted in return an annual grant of Rs. 3,000.

For a long time the relations between the Sikkim Durbar and the British Government were strained as the former insisted on the restoration of the runaway slaves from their territory. To make matters worse, they seized the Superintendent of Darjeeling and another Englishman who were travelling in Sikkim and kept them in durance for a month and a half. The British Government took a serious view of the matter and punished the Rajah by cancelling his pension and annexing a portion of his territory. The affairs reached a climax, and, finally, a British force

entered Tumlong and brought the Rajah to terms. He entered into a treaty with them in March 1861, by which the rights of free trade, and protection for travellers, were secured. On his death in 1875, the present Maharajah, Thutob Namgyal, born in 1851, succeeded him. In 1888 the Tibetans rose against Sikkim, when the British army ousted them. In 1889 a Political Officer was appointed and stationed at Gangtok to advise and help the Sikkim Chief and his Council.

His Highness the Maharajah replied as follows to the invitation of H. E. Lord Curzon, for the Delhi Durbar of 1903 :—

The humble Thutob Namgyal, Maharajah of Sikkim, most respectfully begs to state that he very greatly rejoices at the receipt of an invitation to be present at the Coronation Ceremony of Their Most Gracious Majesties the King Emperor and Queen Empress to be held at Delhi, which Your Excellency has so graciously sent him. He from the fullness of his heart welcomes the opportunity so graciously offered him to do himself that great honour of attending the Coronation Ceremony.

The Maharajah was unable to be present at the Durbar, but he was represented by his son and heir, Maharaj-Kumar Sidkeong Tulku, who enjoyed all the honours and privileges due to his father at the august assembly. At the Imperial Delhi Durbar of 1911, His Majesty conferred on the Maharajah the title of K.C.I.E., and on the Maharaj-Kumar that of C.I.E. His Highness is entitled to a salute of fifteen guns.

The convention of 1890 with the Chinese recognised the British protection over Sikkim, and also their exclusive authority over its internal administration and foreign relations. Since the stationing of the Political Officer at Sikkim, there have been marked improvements in the State. Roads and bridges have been constructed, and the Nepalese have been permitted to settle in certain parts of the Province. The State religion is Budhism, and there are thirty-six monasteries, the most prominent of them being Pemiongchi, Tassiding, and Pensung.

Maize is the principal crop. The other crops are buckwheat, rice, wheat and barley. Cardamom also forms a valuable produce. The fruits grown are plantains, oranges, apples etc. The minerals found in the State are copper, iron, magnetite and garnet. At the Lachung weaving school, tweed suitings and blankets are manufactured on a large scale.

The State maintains a small military police, consisting of one havildar, three head constables, and sixteen naiks and constables. At Gangtok there are a school and a hospital. The Maharajah owns palaces at Tumlong and Gangtok. The revenue of the State is over two lakhs.

This picturesque and all but primitive hilly State has several untapped resources for future progress, and, under its present ruler, it enjoys all the benefits of good administration.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAWAL
SHRI SALIVAHAN BAHADUR
MAHARAWAL OF JAISALMIR

JAISALMIR, third in size among the States of Rajputana, covers an area of 16,062 square miles and contains over 472 towns and villages, with a total population of 88,278, the Hindus forming the majority. The principal languages spoken are Marwari and Sindi. The climate in general is dry and healthy. The country is mostly a sandy waste on the borders of the Great Indian Desert.

The Rulers of Jaisalmir claim descent from Shri Krishna, and are Rajputs of the Jadon clan. It would appear that, after Krishna, his clansmen scattered themselves, and many of them settled down beyond the Indus. One of their successors, Salivahan, founded a capital after his name in the south of the Punjab, which is now known as Sialkot. In A. D. 78 he defeated the Indo-Scythians in the battle near Kahror, and, in commemoration of this event, called himself Sakari (foe of the Sakas or Scythians), and introduced the Saka era (a name which is still in general use throughout India). Bhati, his grandson, who was a great warrior, brought to subjection many of his neighbouring Chiefs; and the tribe, Bhati Jadon, came to be called after him. Migrating from place to place, they ultimately found their abode in the Indian Desert. The first member of the Bhati Jadons, who enjoyed the distinction of Rawal and who built the fort of Deogarh or Deorawar in 853, now known as Derawar, in the Bahawalpur State, was Deoraj. One of his successors, Jaisal, made himself master of Lodorva, an immense city, with twelve gates. In 1156 he founded the city and fort of Jaisalmir. About the foundation of Jaisalmir, Todd, in his Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan, writes:—

Jesul thus obtained the gadi of Lodorva; but it being open to invasion, he sought a spot better adapted for defence, and he found one only five coss (ten miles) from Lodorva. Upon the summit of a rocky ridge, he discovered a Brahmin, whose solitary hermitage adjoined the fountain of Brimsir. Having paid homage and disclosed the purport of his visit, the recluse related the

history of the triple-peaked hill, which overlooked his hermitage. He said that in the *Trela*, or 'silver age,' a celebrated ascetic called Kak, or Kaga, resided at this fountain, after whom the rivulet which issued thence had its name of Kaga; that the Pandu Arjoon, with Heri Crishna, came there to attend a great sacrifice, on which occasion Crishna foretold that, in some distant age, a descendant of his should erect a town on the margin of that rivulet, and should raise a castle on *Tricuta*, the triple-peaked mount. While Crishna thus prophesied, it was observed to him by Arjoon that the water was bad, when Crishna smote the rock with his *Chakra* (discus), whereupon a sweet spring bubbled up, and on its margin were inscribed the prophetic stanzas which the hermit Eesul now pointed out to the Bhatti prince, who read as follows:—(1) "Oh prince of Jidoo-vansa! come into this land, and on this mountain's top erect a triangular castle; (2) "Lodorva is destroyed, but only five coss therefrom is Jesanoh, a site of twice its strength; "(3) Prince, whose name is Jesul, who will be of Yadu race, abandon Lodorpura; here erect thy dwelling."

On Rubwar, 'the day of the sun', a favourite day for commencing any grand undertaking with all these tribes, the 12th of Sarvan, the enlightened half of the moon, S. 1212 (A. D. 1156), the foundation of Jessulmeer was laid, and soon the inhabitants, with all that was valuable, abandoned Lodorva, and began to erect new habitations.

At the end of the thirteenth and in the beginning of the fourteenth centuries, Alauddin could not put up with the commotion caused by the Bhatis, and so directed his arms against Jaisalmir, and completely ruined the fort and the city. In 1651 Sabal Singh was the head of the Bhati Chiefs, and ruled it as a vassal of the Moghul Emperor. In the annals of the Kishangarh State, it was stated that Sabal Singh obtained the grant of Jaisalmir on the intervention of his cousin, Rajah Rup Singh of Kishangarh. In course of time large additions were made to the territory of Jaisalmir, which were subsequently annexed by the Rathors. Maharawal Mulraj entered into a treaty with the British in 1818, whereupon the British Government took Jaisalmir under their protection. In virtue of the treaty, they guaranteed the right of succession to his descendants, and also undertook to protect him from foreign aggression. Mulraj was succeeded by his grandson, Gaj Singh. The British, after their conquest of Sind, restored to Jaisalmir the forts of Shahgarh, Garsia and Ghotaru that had once belonged to it. On the death of Gaj Singh in 1846, his widow adopted his nephew, Ranjit Singh, who occupied the *gadi* till 1864, when his younger brother, Bairi Sal, succeeded him. Bairi Sal died in 1891, and his widows adopted Shyam Singh, son of Thakur Kushal Singh of Lathi. The adoption of the minor, who was fourteen years old, was confirmed by the Government of India ; whereupon Shyam Singh succeeded and assumed the family name of Salivahan.

H. H. the Maharajah Dhiraj Maharawal Shri Salivahan Bhadur who was born in 1887, received his education at the Mayo College, Ajmer. He married the second daughter of H. H. the Maharao Keshri Singhji Bahadur of Sirohi, when he was twenty years old. In the following year he received full administrative powers. His Highness replied as follows to the invitation of H. E. Lord Curzon, in connection with the Delhi Durbar of 1903 :—

It gives me the greatest pleasure to respond most cordially to such a kind invitation as Your Excellency has been pleased to extend to me, more especially as this happy and auspicious occasion of unprecedented grandeur affords a unique and a glorious opportunity to all the Princes and the people of this vast continent of India to demonstrate their deep-seated feelings of unswerving loyalty and devotion to the august person and the throne of their beloved and exalted Sovereign, the never-setting sun in whose empire is symbolical of its glory and greatness.

Allow me to add that this ancient house of Bhatis has always been foremost in its unalterable attachment and allegiance to the British Throne, and its guiding principle is to be ever true to this sacred and glorious heritage.

There are many archæological monuments in the State, the prominent of them being the village and fort of Birsilpur, founded so for back as the second century; Tanot, the first desert capital of the Bhatis,whose fort and temple date from the eighth century; the Jain temple at Lodorva built over a thousand years ago; and the building with thirty-two pillars built in 820, at Sirwa, a village 24 miles south-east of Jaisalmir.

The principal rain crops are *jowar, mung, moth* and *til.* Camels are chiefly used for ploughing. A scanty rainfall is enough for the crops. The minerals found in the State are salt, lime, limestone, sandstone, and fuller's earth. Blankets of sheep's wool, small bags and druggets of goats' and camels' hair, and stone cups and platters are manufactured.

Besides many minor courts, there are the Sadr Criminal and Civil Courts. The Dewan hears appeals against the decisions of these Courts, and also decides such original cases as are beyond their jurisdiction. He is also invested with powers to sentence up to two years' imprisonment and to inflict a fine of Rs. 500. The Court of the Maharawal is the highest in the State. The Revenue of Jaisalmir is nearly a lakh and a half.

The State has an army of 39 cavalry, 168 infantry and 13 artillerymen with 17 useful guns. The police has more than 150 men, of whom about 75 are mounted. There are three schools and one hospital in the State. Education is imparted free. The Maharawal is entitled to a salute of fifteen guns.

His Highness is young and active and is known as a sympathetic ruler working for the welfare of his subjects.

HIS HIGHNESS RAI RAYAN MAHARAWAL SHRI PRITHI SINGHJI BAHADUR MAHARAWAL OF BANSWARA

The name Banswara is explained in two ways, one being that it was called after a Bhil Chieftain, Wasna, who had his village on the present site of the capital, and who was defeated and killed in 1530 by Jagmal, the first Chief of Banswara, and the other attributing the name to bans (bamboo) which abounds in the country. The Banswara State occupies the southernmost portion of Rajputana, having an area of 1,946 square miles. The land is fertile, and well cultivated on the west, while the rest of the country is covered with hills and jungles. The Mahi with its tributary, the Anas and the Airav, the Chap, and some other smaller rivers irrigate the land. The delightful green appearance caused by the verdure which the country puts on after the rains, makes the State the most beautiful portion of Rajputana. Malaria is prevalent for two months after the rains, and the climate on the whole is enervating and unhealthy. The rainfall averages thirty-eight inches.

The members of the Ruling house of Banswara are Sesodia Rajputs of the Ahariya sept, of which the Chief of Dungarpur is the head. After the battle of Khanua in 1527, Jagmal (the younger son of the Chief of Dungarpur) separated himself from his elder brother, Prithwi Raj, and founded the Banswara State. The successors of Jagmal were rulers of no importance, excepting the two who distinguished themselves by conquering Kushalgarh and Shergarh respectively. During the eighteenth century, Banswara, like the other States, fell a prey to the ravages of the Mahrattas, who exacted tribute from it. In 1818 the Maharawal of Banswara entered into a treaty with the British, by which he agreed to acknowledge them as his suzerain, and to pay them the tribute he had given to the Mahrattas together with any other sum, the whole not exceeding three-eighths of his revenue, and in return for this he was guaranteed protection from the Mahrattas. The tribute fluctuated from time to time, until it was finally fixed at Rs. 17,500 in 1904. His Highness Rai Rayan Maharawal Prithi Singh succeeded his father, the late Maharawal Shambhu

Singh, in December 1913 and was invested with full ruling powers in arch 1914. He was born on the 15th July 1888. The State consists of one Revenue District only in charge of a Revenue Officer with an Assistant. He acts under the orders of the Maharawal assisted by a Minister who is locally called Diwan.

His Highness the Maharawal exercises full Civil and Criminal jurisdiction himself and through his subordinates.

The population of the Banswara State, according to the census of 1911, is 187,468 spread over two towns and 1,355 villages. The Bhils form 63 per cent of the people and are animists in religion, while the Hindus constitute 34 per cent and Mahomedans 3 per cent.

The language spoken by 92 per cent of the people is Bhili and Vagdi, both dialects based on Gujarati but intermediate between it and Rajasthani, while the remaining 8 per cent speak Malwi, Mewari, etc. Agriculture forms the main occupation of the people and is much improving since the country was subjected to a regular settlement in 1906. In the fertile soil on the west are found Brahmins and Patels engaged in agriculture. In the rest of the country the Bhils follow agriculture which they have much improved of late. The forest has been organised and a considerable portion reserved. Irrigation is also improving since the introduction of the regular settlement. The State is well supplied with rivers, streams and tanks, and an absolute water famine is an impossibility. The principal rivers, the Mahi and the Anas, have never been known to fail even in a season of drought, but their beds are rocky, their banks high and steep, and they are of no use for supplying water to the crops. The minor rivers and tanks are, however, used for irrigation.

The revenue of the State is about four lakhs, and the expenditure goes up to nearly three lakhs.

The British currency is the sole legal tender throughout the State. The Police of the State numbers 190 of all ranks including 17 mounted men. The Durbar maintains fourteen schools including one Ango-Vernacular School teaching up to the Rajputana Middle School Examination and one girls' school. Three hospitals are maintained by the State, and vaccination is becoming popular.

Banswara has postal communication with Namli on the Rajputana-Malwa line and with Sagwara and Dungarpur through Talwara and Garhi. From Dungarpur the line passes on the Udaipur-Chitor Railway *via* Kherwara Cantonment. There is a combined Post and Telegraph office at Banswara.

His Highness the Maharawal is entitled to a salute of fifteen guns. The State bids fair to prosper well under his beneficient administration.

THE HONOURABLE COLONEL HIS HIGNESS THE NAWAB SIR MOHAMMAD HAMID ALI KHAN BAHADUR G. C. I. E., G. C. V. O., NAWAB OF RAMPUR

The Native State of Rampur, in Rohilkhand, has an area of 893 square miles, with a population of 531,898 scattered over six towns and 1,120 villages. 55 per cent of the population are Hindus and the remainder Mahomedans. It is a fertile country being well-watered by many streams, as the Kosi and the Nahal.

Towards the end of the seventeenth century, Shah Alam and Hussain Khan, two brothers of the Rohilla community, sought service under the Moghul Emperor. Daud Khan, son of Shah Alam, distinguished himself in the Mahratta wars, and his services were recognised by his obtaining a grant of lands near Budaun. In 1719 Ali Muhammad, his adopted son, obtained the distinction of *Nawab*, and a large portion of Rohilkhand. The Subahdar of Oudh, Safdar Jung, who viewed with suspicion and jealousy, the sudden rise to power of Ali Muhammad, picked a quarrel with him, brough him to obedience, took over his possessions, and kept him in confinement at Delhi for six months. He was subsequently liberated and made Governor of Sirhind. In 1748 he managed to regain the territory in Rohilkhand from the Emperor, Ahmad Shah Bahadur. When Ali Muhammad died, his sons divided the estates among themselves, the Jaghir of Rampur Kotera falling to the share of his younger son, Faiz-ullah Khan. During the Mahratta invasions, the Rohilla Chiefs sought the aid of the Nawab Wazir of Oudh, who complied with their wishes on their promising to pay him forty lakhs; but they failed to do so. Thereupon the Nawab Wazir, with the aid of a British army, overran Rohilkhand and brought it under his authority. Faiz-ullah Khan was very fortunate, inasmuch as his case was treated as an exceptional one, and he was allowed to be in possession of his Jaghir on condition of military service, which was subsequently commuted for a cash payment of fifteen lakhs. In 1793 Faiz-ullah Khan

died, and there were serious quarrels for succession, resulting in the murder of his eldest son and the usurpation of the estate by a younger son. The Nawab of Oudh, aided by the British troops, ejected the usurper and placed on the *masnad* Ahmad Ali Khan, son of the murdered prince. In 1801 when Rohilkhand was ceded to the British Government, they confirmed each member of the family in his possessions.

In 1857 Nawab Muhammad Yusuf Ali Khan was the Chief of Rampur. When the Mutiny broke out, he remained very loyal to the British Government, who recognised it by a grant of land valued at a lakh and a quarter, besides conferring other honours and an increase of guns in his salute. After him came his son, His Highness the Nawab Muhammad Kalb Ali Khan, G. C. S. I., C. I. E. In 1877 he was present at the Delhi Imperial Assemblage, when his salute was raised from thirteen to fifteen guns and a standard was given him. On His Highness's death in 1887, Nawab Mushtak Ali occupied the *gadi*, but survived his elevation for only two years. He was succeeded by the present ruler, His Highness the Nawab Hamid Ali Khan Bahadur, as a minor. Till he attained his majority in 1896, the affairs of the State were managed by a Council of Regency.

The year His Highness assumed full administrative powers, the State was threatened by a severe famine, when public works on an extensive scale were taken in hand, and a very large quantity of grain was purchased and sold at lower than the market rate. Since the Nawab's accession to the *gadi*, the Government of India have lent to the State the services of an Indian Official of the United Provinces. He is now the Minister (Madar-ul-maham), and many departments are under his control, subject to the direction of the Nawab. The Chief Secretary, the Home Secretary, the Legal Remembrancer, and the Dewan-i-sadr, are the Chief Executive Officers in the State.

The Legislative Committee, formed in 1902, consists of the members of the ruling family, officials, and the principal residents of the Rampur city. The regulations, framed by the committee presided over by the Minister, are put before the public for criticism.

Each of the five tahsils, into which the State is divided, is in charge of a Tahsildar, who exercises the powers of a second class magistrate as in the British territory. The Nazim hears all appeals in rent and revenue cases. The Mufti Diwani (civil court) hears suits up to Rs. 10,000. The District Judge decides important cases and appeals in civil suits from the orders of Tahsildars and Mufti Diwani. Rampur has a Court of Small Causes. There are also several special magistrates. The Chief Magistrate is empowered to inflict three years' imprisonment; the Sessions Judge can sentence up to five years, and the Minister, up to ten years; transportation

for life and death-sentences are subject to the confirmation of the Nawab. Rampur city has a Municipality, the Commissioners being elected.

The State army consists of a cavalry force of three squadrons of which two (317 strong) are Imperial Service Lancers. The local forces number 1900 infantry and 206 artillery with 23 guns. The police comprises one Superintendent, one Assistant Superintendent, two Inspectors, 101 subordinate officers, and 409 constables. There are more than 125 educational institutions in the State. The State Arabic College draws students from all parts of India and Central Asia. An English school and an industrial school are located at Rampur. The Durbar maintains fifteen hospitals and dispensaries.

Rice, maize and wheat are the principal crops. Irrigation is carried on by a system of small canals taken from the Bahalla and the Kosi rivers. Among the industries are cotton weaving, a very fine cotton damask known as Khes, ornamental pottery, excellent sword-blades, and other articles of steel, match-locks and guns, sugar-refining, and the manufacture of papier-mâché and lacquered ware. The Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway traverses the State from south-east to north-west.

His Highness has travelled all over India and England. He evinces a deal of interest in education. He has contributed a large sum of money to the Mahomedan University Scheme, and has recently given a donation of Rs. 50,000 for the Unani Vedic Medical College, which is to be started at Delhi. The Nawab paid from his State all expenses incurred at the Tibbi Medical Conference, which held its sittings at Delhi during the last week of November 1910. For some years past, he has been a member of the Legislative Council of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh. He takes a keen interest in the affairs of his State and has already introduced many salutary reforms. The Revenue of Rampur is about forty-five lakhs.

His Highness won the distinction of G. C. I. E. in 1908; and at the last Delhi Durbar, His Imperial Majesty was pleased to confer on him the title of G. C. V. O. The Nawab, who is entitled to a salute of thirteen guns, is also an A. D. C. to His Majesty.

The full titles of the Nawab are:—The Honourable Colonel His Highness Alijah Farzand-i-Dilpazir-i-Daulat-i-Inglishia, Mukhlis-ud-Daula Nasir-ul-Mulk, Amir-ul-Umara, Nawab Sir Mohammad Hamid Ali Khan Bahadur, Mustaid Jung, G.C.I.E., G. C. V. O., Nawab of Rampur, A. D. C. to His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor.

The State is in a prosperous condition, the administration being most efficient. The industrial advancement in the Province bespeaks His Highness's solicitude for the welfare of his subjects.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SIR PRABHU NARAIN SINGH BAHADUR, G. C. I E., MAHARAJAH OF BENARES

The newly constituted Feudatory State of Benares, till recently known as the Family Domains of the Maharajah of Benares, is in the United Provinces, covering an area of 988 square miles with a population of nearly 375,000. It comprises the Parganas of Bhadoi and Kera Mangraur, together with the Fort of Ramnagar and its appurtenances. The normal revenue of the State is about twenty lakhs including that of the Zamindari estates. The Chief is entitled to a salute of thirteen guns.

The progenitor of the family of the Maharajah of Benares was Mansa Ram, a Gautem Brahmin of the Buinhar clan, who flourished during the reign of the Nawab of Oudh, by taking service under Rustum Ali, Governor of Benares. Mansa Ram obtained the grant of the Sarkars of Jaunpur, Chunar and Benares; and after his death in 1739, it was transferred to his son, Balwant Singh, with the distinction of Rajah Bahadur, who was later on recognised as the Zamindar of Gangapur. In 1754 he paid Rs. 80,000 and obtained a revenue-free grant of Chakia. In course of time, he got himself rid of the supremacy of the Nawab, added largely to his holdings, built fortresses, and thus made his position more secure. In 1763 when the Emperor Shah Alam and the Nawab Shuja-ud-daula went against Bengal, Rajah Balwant Sing Bahadur joined them, and, after the battle of Buxar in 1764, sought the protection of the British. In 1776 the East India Company made an agreement with Chaitt Singh, son of Balwant, and confirmed him in his possessions. In 1778 and 1780 the expenses of three separate wars with the Mahrattas, the French and the Dutch, and Hyder Ali, drained the Bengal treasury. Warren Hastings, the then Governor-General, sought for extra sources of supply, and called upon Rajah Chaitt Singh to contribute 2,000 horse and five lakhs of rupees. But the Rajah refused or evaded compliance with the demand though he held his estate only for an annual payment

of twenty-two and a *half lakhs* of rupees. Thereupon, the Governor-General arrived in Benares and sent a guard to imprison the Rajah. A disturbance ensued, which occasioned loss of life, and Chaitt Singh fled to Gwalior, where he died as an exile in 1810. Mahip Narayan, a grandson of Balwant Singh, was then recognised as Rajah. He was, however, stripped of all criminal powers in the whole of his estate and of the civil jurisdiction of the city. The control of the mint was also taken away from him, while the revenue payable by him was also raised. In 1787 the Resident at Benares introduced a revenue settlement and many other salutary reforms.

The English made an agreement with the Rajah in 1794, when they separated the lands he had held in his own right from the rest of the State, and assumed control of the same on payment of an annual income of a lakh of rupees. The former holdings constituted the Family Domains.

The Rajah was invested with revenue powers within his estates, with permission to delegate those powers to any of his officials. His courts were allowed to try all civil and rent cases, and appeals against their decisions were decided by the Commissioner of the Benares Division, who was made the Superintendent of the Domains, the highest Appellate Court being the Board of Revenue.

Rajah Mahip Narayan died in 1795, when he was succeeded by his son, Rajah Udit Narayan. The latter dying in 1835, his nephew, Maharajah Ishwari Prasad Narayan, ascended the *gadi*. He remained loyal to the British Government during the Mutiny, in recognition of which the personal distinction of "Maharajah Bahadur" was conferred on him. At the Delhi Imperial Assemblage of 1877, he obtained the distinction of a Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, and was subsequently granted the privilege of being addressed as "His Highness". He passed away on the 13th June 1889, when his nephew and adopted son, the present Maharajah, Prabhu Narayan Singh, born on the 26th November 1855, succeeded him. In September 1889, the personal distinctions of "His Highness the Maharajah Bahadur" were conferred on him. A sanad of adoption, according to Hindu law and his family customs, was granted to him, and he was also exempted from personal attendance in Civil Courts. The Maharajah Bahadur was created a G. C. I. E. in 1898.

At the Delhi Durbar of 1903, the Maharajah Bahadur, then only a territorial magnate, enjoyed all the honours and privileges of a Ruling Chief.

During their tour in India, Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, paid a visit to Benares in February 1906, when they honoured the Maharajah with a visit and took tea with him at the Ramnagar Palace.

In March 1905, His Highness addressed a memorial to the Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces requesting that he and his successors might be given a defined and permanent status among the Ruling Chiefs of India. The proposals of the Government of India for meeting the Maharajah's wishes were accepted by the Secretary of State for India, and by the end of 1910 His Highness took an honoured place among the great feudatories of the Empire.

In November 1910, H. E. the Viceroy, Lord Minto, paid a visit to Benares, where, at the State banquet, His Excellency announced that His Highness had been made a Ruling Chief, and delivered the following speech :—

"It is very interesting to hear that the old house in which we are assembled to-night has played its part in history ; if its ancient walls could speak, they would tell stirring stories of British heroism. Your ancestors too, Your Highness, have courageously upheld the traditions of your family and have loyally assisted to safeguard British administration. It is, therefore, all the greater satisfaction to me, on the eve of my departure from India, to be able to recognise the faithful services of Your Highness and Your Highness's predecessors. I need not at present recount the history of Your Highness's family or discuss the questions which have been raised as to the status of the Rajahs of Benares, prior to and since the agreement of 1794. It is sufficient for me to say that Your Highness comes of an ancient house, the representatives of which from the time of Rajah Balwant Singh, have held a special position in relation, first to the court of Delhi, and afterwards to the British Government. That status has in many respects resembled that of a Ruling Chief, and Your Highness and your predecessors have to some extent enjoyed the honours, powers and privileges appertaining to that rank. But there have been ambiguities in the position of Your Highness's family which have been a constant source of complaint and which, for the satisfaction both of yourself and the British Government, it is desirable to remove. To effect this object, and in recognition of Your Highness's unique position, it has been decided with the concurrence of His Majesty's Government to constitute the part of the family domains of the Rajahs of Benares as a State under the suzerainty of the King-Emperor, to be held by Your Highness and your successors as Ruling Chiefs of the State of Benares. The tracts that have been included in this State will comprise the Parganas of Bhadoi and Kera Mangraur of the family domains, together with the Fort of Ramnagar and its appurtenances. The Pargana of Kaswar Rajah will, for administrative reasons, be treated in future as part of British India. Your Highness's administration of

the State, so conferred, will be subject to certain restrictions and conditions which are necessary for safe-guarding to the residents of those territories, the rights and privileges they have enjoyed under the British administration, and the Agent to the Lieutenant-Governor will be ready at all times to assist and advise Your Highness. Subject to such conditions and restrictions, Your Highness and your successors will have full powers of administration in the State of Benares.

Your Highness, I rejoice to make this announcement to-night, not only because the distinguished services of your family have deserved well of the British Raj, but because I know that the Government of India can look to you as a wise, considerate, and loyal administrator of the affairs of your State. As Your Highness has said, India has of late years passed through troublous times, in which, as head of the Government, it has been my earnest endeavour to preserve the peace of the country and to further the happiness of the people. It is in that direction that the assistance and co-operation of Ruling Chiefs must always be invaluable to the Government of India. I know full well that your support will never be sought in vain, and I congratulate you on the recognition you have so well deserved.

His Excellency the Viceroy, Lord Hardinge, who paid a visit to Benares on the 17th February 1912, at the State banquet held on the occasion, said, among other things :—

During the brief period that has elapsed since the Benares Family Domains were converted into a regular State, Your Highness has, I am glad to know, shown yourself fully worthy of the confidence bestowed on you by His Majesty's Government, and I feel sure that by your continued attention to the needs of your subjects and with the assistance of the Political Agent you will do your utmost to retain that confidence.

His Highness is a great patron of learning and a profound Sanskrit scholar. He has endowed the Central Hindu College, Benares most munificently, and takes a keen interest in the Hindu University Scheme. He is a great believer in education.

Thus, by the generosity of the Supreme Government, the ancient State of Benares has been restored to its old status and privileges, and it may be hoped that the present Chief and his successors will, by their efficient administration and devotion to the British Government, amply justify the step now taken and be the cause of many more deserving States regaining their lapsed autonomy.

HIS HIGHNESS THE NAWAB
SIR SHERE MAHOMED KHAN BAHADUR, G. C. I. E.,
NAWAB OF PALANPUR

The Palanpur State in the Political Agency of the same name in the Kathiawar Peninsula is an ancient principality, which has been in the possession of Mahomedan rulers, called the Diwans of Palanpur, from the beginning of the seventeenth century. The early history of this tract is lost in obscurity, but the traditional account is that it was originally called Prahladan Patan, after a Ponwar conqueror Prahladan Deo, and that it was subsequently re-peopled by Palansi Chauhan, after whom the State has evidently taken its name. About the end of the fourteenth century, Palanpur and Deesa were conquered by an Afghan tribe of the Lohanese stock. These were known as the Jhaloris from Jhalor, a town which was wrested from them by the Moghuls in 1699. Palanpur itself has remained in the possession of the same family continuously up to the present time.

The State lies on the confines of the Rajput States of Jodhpur and Sirohi. It covers an area of 1,766 square miles with a population of nearly 225,000. 5 per cent. of these are Jains, nearly 10 per cent. Mahomedans, and the rest Hindus. The income of the State is about seven and a half lakhs, of which a sum of Rs. 38,461 is paid to His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda as a long-established annual tribute. The climate is generally hot and dry and, in some months, even feverish. The average rainfall is about twenty-five inches. The soil in some parts, especially round the hills, is fertile, but generally it is light and sandy, yielding but one crop a year. The principal products are wheat, rice, and other grains, and sugar-cane. The place is also noted for horses of a fine breed, four stallions being maintained in the capital town. The southern and eastern portions of the State are well-wooded, and the northern parts are mountainous and clad with forests. There is enough pasture on the hills. The Banas with its tributaries Sipu and Balaram, and the Saras-

vati irrigate the State. The military expenditure comes to a lakh and a quarter, the force consisting of nearly 200 cavalry, and 500 infantry. The police numbers 3000 men. There are about twenty-five educational institutions. Adequate arrangements are made for medical aid, and vaccination is popular. The fine and picturesque Jasor hills, about eighteen miles from the Palanpur town, are said to be healthy, and are soon expected to become a popular sanatorium.

The Chief of Palanpur represents an ancient dynasty of Mahomedan rulers, who seem to have been originally vassals of Ahmedabad. Indeed in the days of the great Emperor Akbar, Ghazni Khan Jhalor seems to have opposed the Imperial forces on behalf of the Sultan of Ahmedabad. Ghazni Khan was imprisoned for this, but subsequently reinstated at Jhalor with the title of Diwan for ousting certain Afghan invaders. Ghazni Khan died in 1614. After him came his son, Pahar Khan, and brother, Malik Firoz, who conquered Palanpur. Mujahid Khan, son of Firoz Khan, who had aided his father in enlarging the State and obtaining the title of Nawab, was appointed in 1654, Faujdar (Governor) of Patan. Mujahid dying without issue, his brother Salim Khan succeeded to the *gadi* in 1700. The rule of Salim Khan was one of peace and prosperity to the State. On his death in 1708, his son, Firoz Khan, otherwise known as Ghazni Khan, came to the *gadi*. Ajitsingh Rathod of Jodhpur, who was elevated to the rank of Viceroy of Gujarat in 1716, passed through Jhalor to Ahmedabad, when Firoz Khan met him and offered his services, in return for which he obtained the Sirohi district of Dantavada. About 1722 Firoz Khan passed away, and there was a struggle for succession between his two sons, Kamal Khan and Karimdad Khan. The latter put his brother to death and become the Chief. Soon afterwards, Rathod Abhay Singh, the Maharajah of Jodhpur, went against Sirohi, when Karimdad Khan accompanied him and obtained as a reward Palanpur, Dhanera, Malana, Surbakri, Dabela, Roh and Sarotra, all belonging to the Sirohi Chief. After Karimdad Khan came his son, Pahar Khan, in 1730 and ruled till 1744. In 1736 Kantaji Kadam and Malhar Rao Holkar pounced upon north Gujarat and plundered Palanpur, when Pahar Khan consented to pay a tribute of a lakh of rupees. Pahar Khan was succeeded by his uncle, Bahadur Khan, who was compelled to pay an annual tribute of ten thousand rupees to Patel Vithal Sakdev in 1753, and thirty-five thousand rupees to Sadashiv Ramchandra, a deputy of the Peshwa, in 1758. His grandson, Sher Khan, who came to rule in 1781 on the death of his father, Salim Khan, murdered his brothers lest they should dispute the succession. On his dying in 1788 without a male heir, his nephe v (son of his sister) Mubariz Khan, was

placed on the *masnad*. The nobles were against this arrangement, and consequently they raised a revolt and made Shamsher Khan, the grand-son of Kamal Khan, Ruler of Palanpur. The connection of Palanpur with the British Government began in 1809, when their aid was sought to quell the factions consequent on the murder of the then Chief, Firoz Khan, by some nobles. The British placed on the *gadi* Fateh Khan, the infant son of the murdered Chief, with an uncle, Shamsher Khan, as guardian; but the uncle and the nephew could not get on well, and in 1817 the State was placed under a Political Superintendent with a local force of 250 men to preserve the peace. In 1854 Fateh Khan died leaving four sons, the eldest of whom, Zorawar Khan, succeeded him. The young prince rendered valuable service to the British during the Mutiny. He died on the 28th August 1878, when he was succeeded by his son, the present Chief, His Highness the Nawab Sir Shere Mahomed Khan Bahadur, G. C. I. E., born in 1852. His Highness was created a K. C. I. E. in 1893, and five years later a G.C.I.E. The title of Nawab has been recently conferred on him, and though the "Diwan" of Palanpur is generally entitled to a salute of eleven guns, it has been raised by two, as a mark of personal distinction in the case of this ruler. The family holds a sanad of adoption according to Mahomedan law and follows the law of primogeniture in the matter of succession. The Chief exercises full civil and criminal powers except in the case of British subjects. The State of course had its own share in the recent trials from famine and from plague, but the Chief has done everything in his power to ameliorate the condition of his people. During the thirty-four years that His Highness has been in charge of the State, many things have been done to improve the administration. Sixty-eight new villages have been formed, and a vast area of land has been brought under cultivation. Much aid has been given to cultivators to improve well-irrigation, and no efforts have been spared in spreading education among his subjects. A home for orphans and invalid persons has been put up; the courts have been reformed and the other departments of the State have also received the close supervision of His Highness.

The Sahibazda (heir-apparent), Taley Mahomud Khan Bahadur, upon whom the Government of India recently conferred the honorary commission of Lieutenant, is a member of the Imperial cadet corps. He is a great sportsman and a splendid shot.

The full titles of the Chief are:—His Highness the Nawab Sir Shere Mahomed Khan Zorawar Khan Bahadur, Lohani Zubdat-ul-Mulk, G.C.I.E., Nawab of Palanpur.

The State is well administered and the people are contented and happy.

MAJOR HIS HIGHNESS THE NAWAB SIR MOHAMED IFTIKHAR ALI KHAN BAHADUR, K. C. I. E., NAWAB OF JAORA

Jaora is a treaty State in the Malwa Agency of Central India, covering an area of 568 square miles. There are two towns, Jaora the capital, and Tal, and 337 villages. The population is nearly 82,500, of whom 74 per cent. are Hindus, 19 per cent. Mahomedans, and the rest Jains and others. The most numerous sections among Hindus are Rajputs, Chamars, Kunbis and Balais. About 40 per cent. of the people live by agriculture and 12 per cent. by general labour. The Chambal and the Maleni are the only rivers of importance. Half of the total area is under cultivation, of which twenty-four square miles are irrigated. 17 per cent. of the uncultivated area is capable of irrigation, the rest being waste land. The prevailing language is the Rangri or Malwi dialect of Rajasthani.

The Chiefs of Jaora claim descent from Abdul Majid Khan, an Afghan of the Tajik Khel, from Swat, who came to India to acquire wealth. His two sons, Abdul Hamid and Abdur Rashid, took service about 1788 under Ghulam Kadir Khan who had put out the eyes of the old Emperor Shah Alam. Ghafur Khan, the youngest son of Abdul Hamid, formed a matrimonial alliance with Muhammad Ayaz Khan, who held a respectable situation at the Jaipur Durbar. When the Chiefs of Jaipur and Jodhpur fell out in connection with the hand of a Udaipur princess, Ayaz Khan helped Amir Khan, the Pindari Chieftain, in reconciling the two princes. Subsequently Ayaz Khan and Amir became close friends, and the former gave one of his daughters in marriage to the latter, who made Ghafur his confidential Agent and representative at the Court of Holkar. According to the treaty of Mandasor in 1818, Amir Khan was recognised as an independent Chief, and Ghafur Khan as Nawab of Jaora. The latter was confirmed in possession of Sanjit, Malhargarh, Tal, Mandawal, Jaora and Barauda, with powers to collect tribute from Piploda. He was also required to supply 500 cavalry and 500 infantry and fourteen guns to

the British Government, which obligation was later on commuted for a cash payment.

Nawab Ghafur Khan died in 1825, when his infant son, Ghaus Muhammad Khan, succeeded him. In 1842 Ghaus Muhammad Khan obtained full administrative powers; and in the same year the Government of India accepted a cash payment of Rs. 1,82,614 British coin for the troops to be maintained according to the terms of the treaty of Mandasur. During the Mutiny the Nawab remained loyal and rendered good service, in recognition of which the cash payment was reduced to Rs. 1,59,027. In 1862 he received a Sanad of adoption according to Mahomedan law. On the death of Nawab Ghaus Muhammad Khan in 1865, his son Muhammad Ismail Khan succeeded him as a minor, and on his coming of age in 1874, he was invested with full powers. His administration was not a success and the State was burdened with a heavy debt. He died in 1895, and was succeeded by his son, Iftikhar Ali Khan, who was then only twelve years old.

During the minority of the Prince, his uncle, Yar Muhammad Khan, managed the affairs of the State. The young Nawab received his education at the Daly College, Indore, and served in the Imperial Cadet Corps for about fifteen months. Leaving it in 1902, he further prosecuted his studies under the supervision and guardianship, first, of Captain the Hon'ble A. F. Napier, and, on his death, under Captain (now *Major*) D. Cameron of the Central India Horse. Both these officers were appointed by the British Government to look after the young Prince. In 1906 he was given administrative powers. His Highness is an enthusiastic sportsman. He was made a K.C.I.E. on the occasion of the last Delhi Darbar. He enjoys the hereditary distinction of His Highness the Nawab and the personal titles of Fakhr-ud-Daulah and Saulat-i-Jang, and is entitled to a salute of thirteen guns.

The soil is of the best black cotton variety, and it is pronounced to be the richest in Malwa. Excellent crops of poppy are grown in the State. The other principal crops are jowar, cotton, maize and wheat. The revenue of the State, which is about nine lakhs, is collected in cash in four instalments. The British rupee is the medium of exchange.

Jaora town, the capital of the State, is 1,600 feet above the sea-level, with an area of two and a half square miles. It is on the Ajmer Khandua Branch of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway, 432 miles from Bombay. It was originally in the possession of the Khatki Rajputs, but during the rule of Ghafur Khan, it was made his capital town. Its population is nearly 25,000, of whom Hindus form 43 per cent. and Mahomedans 41 per cent. In the town are located two hospitals,

a guest house, a high school, two minor educational institutions, a jail, a Post and Telegraph Office, and several *sarais.* The court building is a grand palatial structure, which has cost the State a sum of over a lakh of rupees. It is the most prominent building in the town.

Tal, also known as Tal-Mandawal, is eighteen miles from Jaora station on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway. In the sixteenth century it was under the Moghul rulers, and in 1810 under Holkar. According to the Treaty of Mandasur, it was assigned to Ghafur Khan in 1818. It is a Municipality.

The Army consists of 54 regular cavalry, 107 infantry, and 17 artillery with 17 guns. There are 320 men for the regular police, and 326 men for the rural police. Besides the Barr High School, which trains students for the University Entrance Examination, the State maintains ten other educational institutions. There are two hospitals in Jaora town, one for males and the other for females, and five dispensaries in the districts.

There are seven Tahsils or Districts in the State—Jaora, Barauda, Berkhera, Malhargarh, Nawabganj, Sanjeet, and Tal, each under a Tahsildar, who exercises the dual functions of collector of revenue and magistrate of the district. The courts were organized in 1885 on the lines similar to those in British territory. The Chief holds final powers in all administrative, civil and judicial matters. But sentences of death are subject to confirmation by the Agent to the Governor-General.

The administration is at present controlled by a Council of State, of which His Highness the Nawab is the President. Mr. J. Rustomji, B.A., who was lately in the service of the Bhopal State as Assistant Judicial Minister, is the Chief Secretary to His Highness and Vice-President of the State Council. The Council is constituted of a President, a Vice-President, and three other members.

His Highness has very wisely undertaken a regular survey and settlement in the State. The work of survey was finished about a year ago, and the settlement operations are nearing completion. It is expected that the settlement will add to the prosperity of the cultivators.

The State enjoys the advantage of having an intelligent and educated young Chief who is well-equipped for administrative work, and this, together with its natural resources, must contribute to its progress and prosperity.



H. H. THE RAJAH OF TIPPERAH

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH
BIRENDRA KISHORE DEVA VARMA MANIKYA BAHADUR
RAJAH OF TIPPERAH

Looking at a map of India, one may find to the right of the southern part of Eastern Bengal and Assam, a yellow or a green patch of territory lying in marked relief to the uniform red of the adjoining British Districts. This is the Native State of Tipperah or "Hill Tipperah," as it has come to be called, in contradistinction to the British District of Tipperah, which was formerly a part of the once Independent Kingdom of Tipperah but which is now held by the Ruler of the State as a Zamindari in the British Territory, forming an impartible appanage of the State. It has an area of 4,086 square miles and a population, according to the last Census, of 229,641, spread over one town (Agartala) and 1463 villages. 69 per cent. of these are Hindus, 26 per cent. Mahomedans, 3 per cent. Budhists, and the remainder mainly Animists. 91 per cent. live by agriculture and 3 per cent. by industries. 44 per cent. speak Tippera or Mrung, and 40 per cent. Bengali, and the remainder, languages of the Kuki-Chin group, such as Manipuri and Hallam.

As the name "Hill Tipperah" indicates, the country is very hilly, being traversed by numerous ranges, varying in height from 100 feet to over 3,000 feet. These are generally overgrown with luxuriant vegetation, and the intervening valleys are drained by meandering rivers that often change their courses and leave at intervals swamps of considerable area. The plains for the most part fringe the border, but vast fertile tracts not infrequently occur in the interior, where they present a striking contrast to the precipitous hill ranges running roughly parallel to one another.

The climate is healthy and salubrious. The annual rainfall averages about ninety inches and is generally seasonable. The land is fertile, and the people are mainly agricultural. The uncultivated portions of the territory form an extensive forest area, which is an important source of revenue.

The State has been geologically surveyed, and traces of some minerals of economic importance have also been found.

The population is divided into two distinct classes, hillmen and those belonging to the plains. Tripuras, who form a relic of the ancient inhabitants of the country, constitute the most important section of the former class while the latter mainly consist of Bengalee Hindus and Mahomedans.

Various theories have been advanced as to the origin of the name Tripura, but only two amongst them are noteworthy. The one is propounded by the " Rajmala " or " The chronicles of the kings," a work of great interest and rare historic value, which was commenced as early as the fifteenth century. The Ruling family, according to the Rajmala, is descended from Drudhya, son of Jajati, of the Lunar Race, who, as the great epic the Mahabharat says, was disinherited by his father, King Jajati, and migrated to the *Kirat* land in the east where, after conquering several kings of the locality, he established a great kingdom with *Tribeg* as its capital. His son or, according to another story, his descendant—Tripur, was the founder of the dynasty and the originator of the name of Tripura. The other tradition is based on the " Pithmala," according to which the country acquired the name as the place where a certain goddess lost her arms, and had been known as Tripura long before the events narrated in the Mahabharata occurred. The Rajmala gives an interesting genealogical table, according to which the present Maharajah is the 175th in descent from the founder of the dynasty. Tripur's son, Trilochana, is mentioned in the Mahabharata as the King of Tripura. The State has a separate era of its own, the present year being 1322 T. E. The era began in commemoration of a successful invasion of Bengal by Rajah Bir Raj, from whom the present Rajah is the ninety-fourth in descent.

The State pays no tribute, but it is subject to the Nazarana rules. Both as regards its own constitution and its relations with the British Government, it holds a unique position. As already mentioned, His Highness, besides being the ruler of the State proper, holds extensive landed property in the Chakla Roshnabad and the Laharpur Estates, which cover altogether an area of nearly 600 square miles, and yield an annual income of about nine lakhs. The succession is hereditary, subject to the nomination of the Ruling Chief and to the formal recognition by the Paramount Power There is a resident British Political Agent in the capital town. Extradition between British India and the State is governed by the general laws on the subject, and the internal affairs are in the hands of the Ruler who enjoys full administrative powers. His Highness is entitled to a salute of thirteen guns.

The present capital is Agartala. The State proper yields an annual income of about eleven lakhs of rupees. Education is free, and there are a number of charitable dispensaries and hospitals, the most important of which is the Victoria Memorial Hospital in the capital town, one of the best institutions of its kind in India. The Zamindaris are under a Manager, with headquarters at Comilla.

The early history of the dynasty is divided into two distinct periods: the traditional period extending up to 1407 A.D., for information regarding which we must look to the "Chronicles" solely, and the historical period since 1407 which is treated both in the Rajmala and by the contemporary Mahomedan writers. The traditional period probably witnessed the kings of Tippera engaged in hostility with the neighbouring sovereigns of Kamrup, Arakan, Cachar and Rangamati, the names of the sixty-ninth, King Pratip, and the seventy-fourth, Rajah Jagartha, being prominent in the chronicles,—the latter having conquered the last-mentioned kingdom and made the chief town of the place his capital. It was in the days of the ninety-sixth King of Tipperah, Sangthafa, that complications arose with the Hindu Kingdom of Gour about the attempted arrest by the Tipperah King of one Hirabanta, a leading officer of the Gour Raj, who, though a resident of Tipperah, had defied the King's authority. The King of Gour at once sent a large force to invade Tripura, and for a time Sangthafa was eager to sue for peace, but his queen protested, and herself led the Tipperah forces against the enemy's troops and utterly routed them. This reverse was partly retrieved, when later on Tugral Khan, the "Malik" of Gour, assisted Ratnafa, the ninety-ninth Rajah, in establishing his claims to the kingdom as a nominee of his father, King Dumarfa, by overthrowing his elder brother who had ascended the throne. It was Tugral who bestowed upon Ratnafa, as a mark of honour, the title of "Manikya" or jewel in return for a friendly present of a rare gem—a title which the rulers of the State assume to this day.

The main feature of the history of the kingdom during a considerable period after this, was the continued struggle between the invading Mahomedan hosts bent on overrunning and subjugating it and the kings who not only bravely withstood these attacks for over a century but occasionally crossed over the Megna and ravaged Bengal down to the Ganges in retaliation. The great King, Dharma Manikya—to whose glorious reign the tank Dharmasagar of Comilla town bears testimony to this day—invaded Bengal and returned after defeating Sultan Abdul Mojahed Ahammed Saha and looting his capital. The names of the Rajahs, Dhanya Manikya, Bijoy Manikya, and Kalyan

Manikya are also conspicuous in connection with the struggle with the Mahomedan invaders.

Roy Chaichag, the Commander-in-Chief of Dhanya Manikya, utterly routed the Mahomedans twice, the stratagem used on one occasion being a clever piece of generalship. The Tipperah forces, which were greatly outnumbered by the attacking army, showed signs of retreat, and, as the invaders pursued them and began to cross the apparently dry bed of the Gumti, the carefully raised embankment further up that had held in check a mighty torrent of water was broken down, and the stream rushed out and washed away more than half the army.

The ancient Kingdom of Tripura made conquests from time to time and gained possessions, which its victorious armies extended from the Sunderbans in the west to Burma in the east. The military prestige of the Rajahs was high during the sixteenth century and rose to its zenith in the days of Rajah Bijoy Manikya, to whose prowess the *Aini Akbari* bears ample testimony. It was not till the beginning of the seventeenth century that the Moghuls obtained a footing in the country. A century of struggle led to the Mahomedan occupation of a portion of the plains which finally came under British rule in 1765. It is this territory that is now, as already mentioned, held by the Ruler of Tripura as a Zamindari appended to the State. Hill Tipperah proper or "Independent Tipperah", as it is still popularly called, was never subjugated by the Moghuls, and the Chief holds it by virtue of his own inherent title to it.

Coming down to modern times, we reach the days of Maharajah Ishan Chandra Manikya, whose death brought about a long-standing dispute as to the succession. This resulted in the ultimate assumption of the *gadi* by Maharajah Bir Chandra Manikya, Ishan Chandra's brother. Although the comparatively long rule of Maharajah Bir Chandra was not without its trials and troubles, the reforms that ultimately brought the administration of the State into accord with advanced ideas began in his time under the auspices of the successive able Ministers to whom the Maharajah entrusted the management of his territory. Bir Chandra was succeeded by his eldest son, Maharajah Radha Kishore, in 1306 T. E. (1896-97). The works of reform referred to above were pushed on vigorously during the twelve years of Maharajah Radha Kishore Manikya's rule. The gross income of the State and the Zamindaries rose from nine to nineteen lakhs. The revenue administration was placed on a sound basis, and communications were improved; Post Offices and Telegraph Stations were opened throughout the territory. The Police and the Judiciary were brought up to modern standards, and educational institutions and hospitals sprang up even in the most secluded parts in the interior. The question of succession was also placed on

and a firm and satisfactory footing, and the Paramount Power accorded its approval to His Highness's proposal. Maharajah Radha Kishore breathed his last on the 12th March 1909, at Benares, during a pilgrimage.

His Highness the Bisama-Samara-Bejoyee Mahamahodaya Panchasrijukta Rajah Birendra Kishore Deva Varma Manikya Bahadur, the present ruler, assumed charge of the Raj on the 29th Falgoon, 13th March 1909. The installation ceremony took place on the 25th November 1909 and was attended by His Honour Sir Lancelot Hare, the Lieutenant-Governor of the now defunct Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

His Highness is thirty-two years of age, having been born on the 3rd November 1883; and has an heir duly nominated, Srila-Srijukta Bir Bikram Kishore Deva Varma; Jubraj Goswami Bahadur. His Highness has married in the Ruling family of Nepal. Handsome, accomplished, and amiable in manners, the present Ruler of the State is a striking personality. A painter and musician of considerable merit, His Highness is a man of taste and literary habits. The Rajah takes a keen interest in industrial and other useful arts. He is thus a worthy grandson of the late Maharajah Bir Chandra, whose fame in those respects has spread far and wide. His Highness's education was carefully attended to by the late Chief who had placed him in charge of an eminent European tutor. The Rajah is a keen sportsman.

The State is divided into eight administrative divisions—Agartala, Udaipur, Sonamura, Bilania, Khowai, Dharmanagar, Kailashahar, and Sabrum, each under a Magistrate-Collector, who corresponds to a District Officer in British territory, and who is responsible to the Minister except in judicial matters. The Chief Court is known as the Khas Adalat and has six judges, one of whom presides over the original side and tries sessions cases. An appellate Bench of the Adalat hears all appeals, criminal and civil.

The State maintains a military force of some 350 of all ranks. The police has on its rolls nearly 350 men and officers. Among educational institutions there is a High School, and about one hundred and fifty Middle English and Primary schools. There is an Artisan School, in which carpentry and brass and iron-work are taught. Boarding-houses are attached to the High School, accommodation and medical aid being provided free. The Durbar has established a special boarding-house for the sons of Thakurs, and such of them as have a desire to enter the State service undergo special training. Special arrangements have been made for the education of the boys of the Ruling family.

Agartala, the capital of the State, is divided into two parts, the old town and the new, respectively on the left and right banks of the Haora

river. The palace of the Chief is in the new town. In the old town there is a temple containing fourteen deities whose heads are wrought in gold. Agartala has a municipality. Udaipur village is the ancient capital of the State. It has a temple, dedicated to Tripureswari, which is the second in importance in Eastern Bengal, and thousands of pilgrims resort to it. It was built in the sixteenth century.

The principal crop is rice; the other crops are jute, tobacco,sugarcane, mustard, chillies and onions. The hill products are cotton, chillies and sesamum. The pastural cultivation known as *jhum* is almost common among hillmen, and so the Durbar adopted measures some years ago to induce the Tipperahs to start plough cultivation. To encourage this, they have established some agricultural banks. Of the two breeds of buffaloes, Manipuri and Bangar, the former are thought to be stronger. There are extensive grazing grounds.

Coarse cotton cloths are woven by the Manipuri and Tipperah women. Agartala, Khowai, Kailashahar, Udaipur, Bisalgarh and Mohanpur are the important centres of trade. At some of these centres annual fairs are held, where the hill tribes make their purchases from merchants that go from the British districts. Traffic is carried on chiefly by water; when the rivers are not navigable, rafts and canoes are used.

The hill tribes follow some primitive customs of marriage. Any young man wishing to marry a girl should serve in her father's house for one or two years. Infant marriage is uncommon; divorce and widow remarriage are allowed among sections of hill people.

As a peace-maker His Highness has shown great capacity within the brief period that has elapsed since his accession. He has gathered round him all the members of the family including some former claimants to the Raj, and has thereby removed all sources of discontent.

His Highness takes a keen and active interest in the affairs of the State and in the well-being of his subjects, and he is always in touch with the Minister and the administrative machinery of the Raj. Under his rule the State is assured a prosperous future.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH
RAJENDRA NARAYAN BHUP BAHADUR
MAHARAJAH OF COOCH BEHAR

Cooch Behar, a Feudatory State in North Bengal, situated about half way between the Bhutan Himalayas and the southward bend of the Brahmaputra, is a low-lying plain covering an area of 1,307 square miles. The population is 592,965 spread over 1,192 villages and four towns, Cooch Behar, the head-quarters, Matabhanga, Haldibari and Dinhata. 70 per cent. of the population are Hindus and the rest Mahomedans. The Rajbansis or Koch form the bulk of the population, and constitute a distinct caste, while the Nasyas and Shaikhs, who were originally Rajbansis, have embraced Mahomedanism. Several large rivers pass through the State, but no drainage channels can be cut to any of them, as in the rains they will lead to floods. The principal rivers are the Tista, the Dharla, the Torsa, the Kaljani and the Raidak. The soil is alluvial. The temperature is seldom excessive, and the annual rainfall is 125 inches.

The principal crops are rice, maize, various pulses, oil seeds, tobacco, jute, sugar-cane, etc. Although there are many tanks, pipe-wells, and tube-wells, the State depends on rainfall for cultivation; but, nevertheless, there has never been a famine at any time. Coarse cotton fabrics and cloths of variegated colours are prepared for local use, besides a considerable amount of excellent gunny cloth. Three metre gauge railways run in the State, namely the Cooch Behar State Railway, the Eastern Bengal State Railway, and the Bengal-Duar Railway. Of the rivers in the State, the Kaljani is a deep stream and carries on considerable traffic. The most important ferry is that over the Tista.

The tract, now known as Cooch Behar, was, in the fifteenth century, under the sway of a family of Khen Kings. Later on, there was anarchy, when independent local rulers, known as Bhuiyas, founded numerous petty principalities. It is traditionally believed that a Koch Chief, named

Chandan, established a new kingdom in the beginning of the sixteenth century. He was succeeded by his cousin, Biswa Singh, who became a powerful ruler by subduing the whole tract from the Karatoya on the west to the Barnadi on the east. About 1540, his son, Nar Narayan, with the help of his brother, Silarai, added largely to his dominions, and even attacked the neighbouring Mahomedan rulers. After the death of Silarai, his son, Raghu, caused great disturbance in the State, and this led Nar Narayan to hand over a tract of country lying to the east of the Sankosh river to Raghu. After this, the Koch power began to decline. Nar Narayan passed away in 1584, and he was succeeded by his son, Lakshmi Narayan. A quarrel soon broke out between him and Raghu's son, Parikshit. Lakshmi Narayan sought the aid of the Moghul Emperor, and thus became his vassal. The Koch kingdom then fell on evil days, and large portions of it were annexed gradually by the Ahoms, the Moghuls, and the Bhotias, until what makes the present State of Cooch Behar only remained to the descendants of Biswa Singh. In 1773 the Rajah of Cooch Behar entered into a treaty with the East India Company, whereby he acknowledged their supremacy; and in 1780 he made over one-half of his annual income, and accepted a permanently fixed moiety of Rs. 67,700. Since that time the State has had a peaceful existence, and its rulers have always remained loyal and friendly to the Paramount Power.

The late Maharajah, His Highness Sir Nripendra Narain Bhup Bahadur, G. C. I. E., C. B., born on the 4th October 1862, was hardly a year old when his father, Maharajah Naraindra Narayan Bhup Bahadur died. Proper arrangements were made for the administration of the State during the minority of the Prince. He had the benefit of an excellent education, first at the Wards' Institute, Benares; later at the Bankipur College, Patna, under the guardianship of Mr. H. St. Kneller, and finally at the Presidency College, Calcutta. While the Prince was yet a student, his State rendered very valuable aid in the Bhutan war of 1863-65, which was recognized by the presentation of two guns. At the Imperial Assemblage of 1877 he received a medal and a sword. In March 1878, he married the eldest daughter of Babu Keshub Chandra Sen, the famous Brahmo reformer. The marriage was the subject of much talk at the time; but it proved to be a most happy one in every way, and this connection with the great Keshub has been a moral asset to the State. Prince Nripendra Narayan then completed his education in England, where he remained for nearly two years under the guardianship of Surgeon-Major (now Sir) Benjamin Simpson and Mr. Kneller, and returned to Cooch Behar by the end of 1879. On the 8th November 1883, he was installed as the Chief of the State by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. In 1885 the Government

of India recognized the titles of Maharajah, and Bhup Bahadur, as hereditary, and also made him an Honorary Major in the British Army, where he eventually held a Colonelcy. Accompanied by his wife and children, His Highness went to England in 1887 and was present at the Diamond Jubilee of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen-Empress Victoria, who was pleased to invest the Maharajah with the insignia of G. C. I. E. In the same year Her Highness the Maharani Sahiba won the distinction of the Crown of India. In 1888 the Maharajah established the Brahmo Samaj at Cooch Behar and also founded the Victoria College. His Highness granted a settlement of revenue to his subjects for thirty years. Among his other benefactions are the India Club established at Calcutta in 1882, the Nripendra Narayan Hall founded at Jalpaiguri in 1883, the Lowis Jubilee Sanitarium started at Darjeeling in 1887, and the Anandamayi Dharamsala (almshouse) established in 1889.

His Highness was a distinguished and enthusiastic mason. In 1887, while in England, he won the masonic honour of Past Grand Senior Warden of England. In 1890 he was made District Grand Master of Bengal, and in the year following, District Grand Mark Master of Bengal. The Maharajah was also a great sportsman and has recorded his experiences as a *shikari* in a book, "Thirty-seven years of big game shooting" published in 1909. He was an Honorary A. D. C. to His Majesty the King-Emperor. He spent the greater part of his time in England for the education of his children.

After a prolonged illness His Highness passed away in London on the 21st September 1911. Her Highness the Maharani received messages of condolence from Their Majesties the King and the Queen, Her Majesty Queen Alexandra, the Gaekwar of Baroda, the Rajah of Pudukottai, and Lords Crew, Curzon, Lonsdale and Minto. The funeral took place with full military honours.

The Maharajah loomed large in the public life of Bengal. A cultured Prince, a great philanthropist, and an ardent reformer, he was one of the most popular rulers of his time, and his death was mourned all over Bengal. Thoroughly anglicized in ideas and tastes, he had a large circle of European friends, who often enjoyed his ready hospitality and greatly appreciated his genial company. His son, the present Chief, Maharajgah Rajendra Narayan, born in 1882, has had the rare advantage of a high class English education both at Eton and at Oxford. He holds a Commission in the Imperial yeomanry, and is also a member of the Imperial Cadet Corps. He comes to inherit his ancient State amidst the good wishes of his father's numerous friends, who have every reason to predict for him a successful and a highly useful reign.

For administrative purposes the State is divided into five sub-divisions,

Cooch Behar, Dinhata, Matabhanga, Mekhliganj and Tufanganj. The State is governed by a Council with the Maharajah as President, the Superintendent of the State as Vice-President, the Dewan as Revenue Member, and the Civil and Sessions Judge, as Judicial Member. The Superintendent is the executive head of criminal justice, police, jail, education, public works, and other minor departments. The Dewan is in charge of the Revenue Department exercising the powers of a Collector in British territory and occasionally those of a Commissioner. Naib Ahlkars and Sub-Naib Ahlkars are in charge of sub-divisions. The highest tribunal in the State is the Council, and the other important Courts are those of the Civil and Sessions Judge and the Assistant Sessions Judge. The Sessions Judge is invested with all the criminal powers according to the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code, except the passing of capital punishment. He exercises the civil jurisdiction of a District Judge, and hears appeals against the decisions of the Assistant Civil Judges, and the Naib and Sub-Naib Ahlkars. He is also an ex-officio Registrar. The Faujdari Ahlkar has the powers of a District Magistrate, and the Naib and Sub-Naib Ahlkars have both civil and criminal jurisdiction. The Faujdari Ahlkar is their immediate superior in criminal matters, and the Civil Judge in civil matters.

The normal revenue of the state is about twenty-five lakhs. Before the advent of the British, the State collected the revenue from Jotdars or persons holding revenue-paying estates, but in 1790 Ijaradars or farmers became responsible for the collection of the assessment. This procedure caused much confusion and disorder; and so, during the minority of the late Maharajah, a thorough survey and settlement was made direct with the Jotdars; and in 1877 the demand was fixed at nine lakhs and a half. The settlement of 1897 raised it to twelve lakhs and a half. There are no customs and transit duties of any kind in the State, nor is there any tax on salt. The Chief is entitled to a salute of thirteen guns.

In the absence of municipalities in the State, there are town committees, consisting of official and non-official members subject to the control of the State Council. The Durbar maintains 160 sepoys and sowars. The police, rural and municipal, has on its rolls nearly 2000 men of all ranks. The principal educational institutions are the Victoria College, the High School in the Cooch Behar town, and eight other high schools. Medical relief is afforded at ten dispensaries, and vaccination is popular.

Endowed with a good soil and possessing many natural advantages, comparatively free from the ravages of periodical famines and blessed with a highly gifted intellectual ruler, Cooch Behar has certainly a prosperous future before it.



H. H. THE MAHARAJAH OF JIND

HIS HIGHNESS MAHARAJAH SIR RANBIR SINGH BAHADUR, K. C. S. I., MAHARAJAH OF JIND

In respect of its extent and importance the Jind State stands the second in what are known as the three Phulkian States, *i. e.*, Patiala, Jind and Nabha. It has an area of 1,268 square miles, and a population of 271,728. It yields an annual revenue of nearly sixteen lakhs It is one of the States that came into prominence during the latter half of the eighteenth century, when the Punjab was much disturbed by successive Mahomedan invasions from the North-west. It was consolidated into a strong principality by Rajah Gajpat Singh, the maternal grandfather of the great Ranjit Singh, Lion of the Punjab. The modern State of Jind consists of three detached tracts, Sangrur, Jind and Dadri, constituting three separate administrative tahsils. The chief sources of irrigation are wells and canals from the larger rivers of the Punjab. The Dadri tahsil is subject to constant drought. Owing to the scattered character of the State, neither the climate nor the rainfall can be said to be uniform. The average rainfall is eighteen inches. Nearly three-fourths of the people are Hindus, about 10 per cent Sikhs and the rest Mahomedans, Jains and Christians. The languages spoken are Punjabi, Bangru, Ahir Bati and Hindustani. 66 per cent of the people live by agriculture. The chief exports are wheat, barley, gram, cotton, maize, millet, ghee and gur, and the imports, piece goods, grocery, brass wares, sugar, rice, etc. There is much cattle and camel breeding, Jind being known for a fine breed of milch buffaloes Beyond a few fodder reserves, there are no forests worth mentioning. The fauna and flora are similar to those of the adjoining tracts in the Punjab. The important industries are the manufacture of gold and silver ornaments, leather and wood work, country cloth and pottery. Sangrur and Dadri are noted for their leather goods, shoes, harness and well-gear ; at Sangrur articles of decent furniture after the English model are prepared. The women do embroidery work both for local sale and for exportation

In the Ludhiana-Dhuri-Jakhal Railway, opened in 1901, the State owns an important share. The Southern Punjab Railway and the Rajputana-Malwa Railway also pass through portions of the State.

Unfortunately the Dadri District is most exposed to the ravages of famine. The severity of the famine of 1899-1900 is still fresh in the minds of the people, and the State spent nearly two lakhs and a half on relief measures.

For purposes of administration the State is divided into three Nizamats and three Tahsils. Each Tahsil is sub-divided into Police circles, the Sangrur Tahsil containing three, and Jind and Dadri two each. Each Nizamat is under the control of a Nazim, under whom works a Tahsildar. Nazims and Tahsildars exercise judicial powers. The Nazim almost corresponds to a District Magistrate in British territory, and all appeals from him lie to the Sadar Adalat. Further appeals are heard by the Council Wizarat which is next in rank to the Ijlas-i-Khas or the Court of the Maharajah. The codes and laws in existence are similar to those obtaining in British territory with certain modifications.

The Dewan controls the Finance, Excise and Revenue ; the Army and the Police are under a Commander-in-Chief ; and the judicial administration is looked after by an Adalti or Minister of Justice. The heads of departments go to constitute the Council Wizarat. Several archæological remains said to be associated with the famous battle of Kurukshetra, lie within the boundaries of the State. There has been a marked progress in education during the reign of the present Maharajah.

The history of Jind begins with Rajah Gajpat Singh (1764-1789), the grandfather of Maharajah Ranjit Singh on the maternal side. He distinguished himself greatly in the wars against the Mahomedans and established his rule firmly at Jind, having put up a large brick fort in that town. His son and successor, Rajah Bhag Singh, was the first among the great Cis-Sutlej Chiefs to seek the alliance of the British Government. Bhag Singh was associated with General Lake, and his great influence among the Punjab Chiefs was always used on the side of the English. On one occasion he held Saharanpur for them when Colonel Ochterlony was in pursuit of the Mahrattas under Jaswant Rao Holkar. It was mainly through his influence that his nephew, the great Ranjit Singh, was prevented from espousing the cause of the Mahrattas. Until his death in 1819, Bhag Singh continued to be a friend and ally of the English, and was the means of all the happy relationship that subsisted between the Sikh Chiefs and the East India Company. The reign of his son and successor, Fatteh Singh, was a short and uneventful one ; he died on the 3rd February 1822, leaving a son eleven years old, Rajah Sangat Singh. The latter joined



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the majority in 1834 without issue, when Rajah Sarup Singh, his second cousin, succeeded him. Sarup Singh came very much under British influence, and Jind was one of the best administered States in the Punjab during his time. He was friendly to the English all through the second Sikh War; and when the Mutiny raged, he rendered signal service to them by fighting personally with his army throughout the struggle at Delhi with great valour. His troops took a prominent part in scaling the walls side by side with the British Troops. Rajah Sarup Singh was the only Chief in India who led his army in person. In his despatch of the 22nd September 1857 announcing the fall of Delhi, General Wilson brought "prominently to notice the admirable service performed by the Rajah of Jind and his troops, who are said not only to have discharged harassing duties in the constant escort of convoys but have aided the General on more than one occasion in the field and finally to have participated in the capture and assault of Delhi." The Governor-General, in his notification of the 5th November 1857, declared that the steady support of the Rajah of Jind called for the marked thanks of the Government. In recognition of Sarup Singh's services the Dadri territory, 575 square miles in extent, was conferred on him; thirteen villages in the Kularan Ilaqa were also ceded in perpetuity; and as a mark of great honour the confiscated house of the rebel Shahzada Mirza Abu Bakar in Delhi was made over to the Rajah. A sanad, dated 5th May 1860, conferred on him full sovereignty over his ancestral and acquired possessions. He was made a G. C. S. I. in September 1863, but before he was invested with the insignia, he passed away on the 26th January 1864. He was known for his princely bearing and was ever a true and loyal friend of the British. He was succeeded by his son, Raghbir Singh.

Soon after his coming to the *gadi* there was a general revolt among the people of Dadri instigated by certain malcontents who misrepresented to them the administrative measures introduced by the new ruler; but it was promptly put down by him, and peace was restored. He was useful to the Supreme Government in suppressing the Kuka outbreak of 1872 He was made a G. C. S. I. in 1876 and a Councillor of the Empire in 1877. A contingent of his army served in the Afghan War, and he was ready to assist the Supreme Power with his troops in the Egyptian Campaign of 1882 though the Government was not in a position to accept the offer. He died in 1887. He was an able and sympathetic ruler and under him Jind improved in many directions. He was a Prince of great taste and took keen interest in gardening. He encouraged industries and did every thing in his power to improve agriculture. He was succeeded by his eight-year-old grandson, the present Maharajah Sir Ranbir Singh.

During the minority of the Prince a Council of Regency carried on the administration. He was invested with full powers in November 1899 at a Durbar held in Sangrur. Immediately after his accession he had to face the terrible famine of 1899-1900. His famine administration was one of which he might well be proud. His Highness has closely followed in the footsteps of his grandfather and his great-grandfather, and under his care the State has reaped many benefits. He has taken several reforms on hand. The Accounts Department has been thoroughly re-organised and placed under an Accountant-General. Public Works have taken a strong hold on His Highness's attention. Among the important works that have been completed in recent years may be mentioned the Raj High School and Lady Minto-Ranbir Girls' School at Sangrur, the Ranbir Skating Rink in the Mehtab Bagh, the grain markets at Sangrur and Julana, the Record Office, The Victoria Golden Jubilee Hospital, Victoria Female-Hospital, and Rivaz-Ranbir Veterinary Hospital. His Highness has spent about Rs. 3,00,000 on buildings of public utility during his reign. An orphanage to be called Ranbir Silver Jubilee Orphanage is to be constructed, the foundation stone of which was laid by His Highness. The establishment by private enterprise of a Ginning Factory at Sangrur (called Ranbir Mills) and another at Jind, and a certain number of Flour Mills, is due to His Highness's encouragement and patronage. Excellent barrack lines have been put up for the army: several roads have been opened; and a fine Dak Bungalow has been constructed. To the subject of education His Highness pays special attention. There are in all forty-six schools in the State, consisting of one Anglo-Vernacular High School, three Anglo-Vernacular Middle Schools, thirty-nine Upper Primary Vernacular Schools, one Punjabi School, and two Girls' Schools, one of them being an Anglo-Vernacular Middle School and the other an Upper Primary Vernacular School. Mr. Wright, the Inspector of Schools of the Delhi Division, has pronounced the High School to be the very best in all the States of the Punjab. Many scholarships have been offered to deserving students to enable them to prosecute their studies outside the State. His Highness has founded a scholarship which is called Dane-Ranbir Foreign Scholarship, and is awarded to the State subjects for receiving higher education in Europe or America. When the present Maharajah took up the reins of administration in his hand, there were only five schools in the State with 834 scholars; and the State spent Rs. 10,900 on education. Now there are forty-six schools with 2,181 scholars, and His Highness spends Rs. 65,200 annually on education. In 1898-99 Rs. 9,000 were paid to teachers as salaries, while in 1913-14 the sum amounted to Rs. 32,000. The total expenditure has gone up six times.

In the matter of medical relief also the State has come up to modern standards. To improve well-irrigation the Maharajah advances large loans to agriculturists. But it is in the matter of military equipment that the Ruler of Jind is most enthusiastic as might be expected from a Sikh Chief of his martial ardour. His Imperial Service Troops were placed at the disposal of the Government of India in the Tirah Campaign of 1897, in which the Jind army earned the special commendations of the General in Command. The army is kept in such trimness, ready equipped with mobilization kit, that it can take the field at five minutes' notice. The fine barrack lines cost the Darbar more than three lakhs of rupees. The Chief himself is ever ready to march at the head of his troops in the service of the British as his forefathers had done. His Excellency Lord Kitchener, then Commander-in-Chief in India, observed in the course of his letter of the 11th November 1907, about the Jind troops :—

* * * *

"I much appreciated being able to see Your Highness's troops in their own lines, and as I informed you at the time I considered them to be in a state of high efficiency."

The Police Service has been re-organised. His Highness takes special interest in the matter of improving and extending Railway communications. The Ludhiana-Dhuri-Jakhal Railway was completed after His Highness's accession to the *gadi*, and the Jind-Panipat Railway is under construction and is expected to be ready for traffic at the end of 1915.

His Highness the Maharajah is most devoted to the Royal House of England. To the Victoria Memorial Fund His Highness contributed fifty thousand rupees, and at the time of the Coronation Durbar of 1903 His Highness, besides remitting two lakhs and a quarter of rents due from his subjects, subscribed a lakh of rupees towards the King Edward Provincial Memorial Fund, which amount is being utilised for extending the Medical College at Lahore. There was also a contribution of five thousand rupees towards the All-India Memorial Fund. In comemoration of the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales in 1906 His Highness paid a sum of twenty-five thousand rupees which was equally divided between the Victoria Girls' High School at Lahore and the Minto Nursing Association. He celebrated the great event of the Coronation Durbar of 1911 in several useful ways. He made it the occasion to announce many important reforms in the State, such as a general increase in the scale of the pay of public servants, the grant of pension to Transport employees, the establishment of Co-operative Credit Societies for the benefit of agriculturists, etc. He has added a wing to the Victoria Golden Jubilee

Hospital and named it "The King-Emperor George V. Coronation Wing." Remissions in taxes and demands amounted to more than a lakh of rupees. He has also signalized the occasion by removing the prohibition to give azan (call of prayer) in the case of Mahomedans, which was prevalent in the State till that time. He attended the Durbar of the Punjab Chiefs held at Lahore in 1905 to meet Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. He was made a K.C.S.I. in 1909, and on the occasion of the Coronation Durbar of 1911, the hereditary distinction of *Maharajah* was conferred on him. He is entitled to a salute of eleven guns. He is a keen sportsman, fond of shooting big game.

His Highness celebrated his Silver Jubilee, the twenty-fifth anniversary of his accession, on the 27th February 1913, to which a number of distinguished guests were invited, including His Honor Sir Louis Dane G.C.I.E., Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, and Their Highnesses the Maharajahs of Patiala and Kapurthala. The Officials of the State and his subjects presented him an address in the Durbar enclosed in a beautiful silver casket, in which they gave expression to their loving and loyal sentiments and expressed their deep gratitude for all that His Highness had done for their welfare during his reign. His Highness granted the following boons and concessions in honour of this auspicious occasion :—

1. The establishment of an Orphanage at Sangrur (to be called Ranbir Silver Jubilee Orphanage).
2. Remission of debts and other demands to the extent of Rs. 50,000.
3. Withdrawal of the old rule prohibiting Jains from building a Jain temple in the State.
4. Exemption from Income Tax to all State employees drawing less than Rs. 15 a month.
5. An increase of Re. 1 per mensem in the pay of the men of Imperial Service Infantry.
6. A grant of one week's pay to the men of Local Troops and Police.
7. The grant of Khillats and Sanads.
8. The introduction of a system of Kursi Nashins.
9. Donations to the Dharamsala of the Aitchison Chiefs' College and the Temperance Society of Amritsar.
10. Release of 21 prisoners.

During His Highness's rule there has been a marked decrease of more than 33 per cent in cognizable offences and 96 per cent of cases have

been disposed of within a year of their being filed, while the transfer of agricultural land has considerably decreased, which gives an ample proof of the security of life and property in the State. It is a matter for gratification that during His Highness's regime the birth rate has gone up by 25 per cent.

His Highness has a keen eye to men of ability and character and has surrounded himself with very able officials who co-operate with him in every possible way in the work of administration. Sardar Bahadur Sardar Shamsher Singh, C.I.E., is the Chief Minister, and the most trusted official of His Highness.

The full titles of the Maharajah are—His Highness Farzand-i-Dilband Rasikh-ul-Itikad Daulat-i-Inglishia Raja-i-Rajgan Maharajah Sir Ranbir Singh Bahadur, K.C.S.I., Maharajah of Jind.

His Highness Maharajah Sir Ranbir Singh Bahadur is one of the most respected Chiefs of the Punjab and enjoys the special confidence and appreciation of the Supreme Government. The State has a good time of it under his rule and keeps itself abreast of the times.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH SIR BHURI SINGH BAHADUR, K. C. S. I., C. I. E., RAJAH OF CHAMBA

Fifteenth in rank among the Punjab Chiefs is the Rajah of the picturesque and ancient State of Chamba in the Himalayan Hills, in close vicinity to the well-known State of Kashmir. It covers an area of 3,216 square miles with a population of 135, 989, and has an annual income of nearly seven lakhs. In shape the State may be regarded as a rough and irregular oblong tapering towards the north. Of course the country is wholly mountainous, the elevation ranging from 2,000 to 21,000 feet. The regions are inhabited up to an elevation of 10,000 feet. Portions of the Chenab and the Beas valley are within the State. The most striking geographical feature is that within it the Himalayas present three well-defined snowy parallel ranges, thirty to forty miles apart, the lowest separating the basins of the Beas and the Ravi, the second forming a watershed between the Ravi and the Chenab, and the third lying between the Chenab and the Indus. On the whole, these constitute a picturesque natural scenery. Of course a land of such varying elevations cannot present any uniformity either in climate or in productions. The fauna and flora of the country are particularly rich and varied, ranging from the tropical to the arctic varieties. To the ornithologist the State is a place of attraction, there being nearly three hundred varieties of the feathered race within its borders. To the sportsman again it is a favourite haunt abounding in games of all sorts, including the ounce or the snow-leopard, the ibex, the marmot, the ermine weasel, and the hill-fox; and at lower elevations, the red bear, the tahr, the musk deer, the black bear, the leopard, the sarao, the hyæna, the langur, the wild cat, the flying squirrel, the jackal, the wild pig, the barking deer and several other varieties. The vegetation also is equally varied. The chief products are rice, maize, wheat and barley. The forests are rich and extensive, yielding a good revenue to the State. There are extensive pasture grounds, the pastures of Pangi being

considered the finest. These grounds are let out every year to shepherds from the Ravi valley, who generally stay there with their flocks from summer to autumn. The Ravi and the Chenab water the State. Of course in an uneven country like this there can be few lakes, but there are some picturesque mountain tarns.

The majority of the people are Hindus : they are divided into four castes, the Brahmins, Rajputs, Thakurs and Rathis. The last two seem to be indigenous, while the first two are immigrants. The country is mainly agricultural, but there are numerous nomadic shepherds moving about with their large flocks. Women take an important share in field labour. The chief exports are mostly mountain produce, wool and ghee, the chief imports being salt, sugar, spices, piece-goods and utensils.

For administrative purposes the State is divided into five divisions, each under an officer called Wazir. He can hear suits to the value of Rs. 1,000. There is an appeal from his decision to H. H. the Rajah, who alone can pass sentences of death and of whipping. Chambiale is the principal dialect spoken, and Punjabi, Hindi and Urdu are also current.

Brahmaur (Brahmaputra), the ancient capital, is situated on the Budhil, a tributary of the Ravi. It contains three ancient temples with inscriptions dating from the early fifteenth century. The temple of Lakshman Devi, containing elaborate carved work in wood, has an inscription of Meru Varma, a ruler of the seventh century. Chamba, the present capital, is a picturesque little town on the right bank of the Ravi, built on two terrace flats on a plateau. The palace of His Highness the Rajah is on the upper terrace, while most of the public offices are on the lower one. The capital contains a High School, and a Hospital (Sham Singh Hospital). Among the many interesting temples may be mentioned the one dedicated to Lakshmi Narayan, as old as the tenth century. There is also a dispensary at Tissa.

The rulers of Chamba belong to the Surajvansi line of Rajputs. The house is an ancient one having been founded by one Meru as early as 550 A. D. He conquered the tracts from the Ranas or the petty chiefs who were ruling the country and established himself at Brahmaputra as his capital. About 920 A. D., one of his descendants, Rajah Sahila Varma, conquered the lower Ravi Valley, and transferred his capital to Chamba, so called after his daughter, Champavati. In the sixteenth century, when Rajah Pratap Singh was the ruler, Chamba was a tributary of the Moghul Empire. Later on, it came under the Sikh ascendancy. After the close of the first Sikh War in 1846, the tracts between the Ravi and the Indus, including Chamba, were transferred to Maharajah Ghulab

Singh, but the treaty was soon modified, and the territory was given to Rajah Sri Singh of the original Chamba family for an annual tribute of twelve thousand rupees. Finally, a sanad was granted on the 6th April 1848 permanently settling the State on Rajah Sri Singh and providing that, in case of failure of natural heirs, the succession should devolve on the eldest of the surviving brothers of the Rajah. Five years later, the British Government had to take over Dalhousie, and, again, in 1866 the tracts of Balun and Bakloh. At present the tribute stands at Rs. 2,225. Rajah Sri Singh dying without issue, his brother, Rajah Gopaul Singh, was placed on the *gadi*, but he had soon to abdicate it in favour of his eldest son, Sham Singh. After Sham Singh had been ruler for thirty years, he had to resign the chiefship in favour of his brother, Rajah Bhuri Singh, the present ruler, who was, on the 12th May 1904, invested with full administrative powers by Sir Charles Rivaz, K.C.S.I., then Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab.

The Chief had been associated with his brother in the administration of the country for a number of years, and his services to the State were recognized by the British Government with the title of C. I. E. in 1902. Rajah Bhuri Singh has thus brought to bear large administrative experience on his work as the Chief of Chamba, and it must have many beneficent effects on the State. In 1907 the Government of India restored to the Rajah the management of the forests in the State as an experimental measure. In 1906 the Rajah was created a K. C. S. I. He is an enlightened and sympathetic ruler and takes a keen interest in his work. He pays special attention to the matter of improving communications; for, in a mountainous country, roads are the first steps to civilization, raising man from the level of a beast of burden. He has broadened old roads and laid out new ones, and before long we may expect that all the important centres in the State will be connected by a net-work of good roads. A fine dak bungalow was put up at Chamba, which is the capital of the State, with a population of about 6,000 on the banks of the Ravi. A handsome and commodious guest-house has just been completed. A free public reading room and library has also been opened. His Highness was present at the Viceregal Durbar held at Agra for the purpose of meeting the Amir of Afghanistan, and he also attended the Durbar of Chiefs convened by Lord Hardinge in April 1911. The Chief is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

The State army consists of 33 cavalry, and 386 infantry, with four saluting guns.

Under His Highness the Rajah Sir Bhuri Singh, K. C. S. I., C. I. E., the State is progressing rapidly, and it is bound to flourish in every way in the coming years.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SIR JAGATJIT SINGH BAHADUR, G. C. S. I., MAHARAJAH OF KAPURTHALA

To the north of the State of Patiala on the eastern bank of the Beas lies the little but resourceful Sikh State of Kapurthala, with a total area of 652 square miles and a population of about 320,000. The State consists of three detached pieces, but the main portion, twenty miles in breadth, covers more than 500 square miles, that is, nearly three-fourths of the total area. The State owns also a jaghir of thirty-four villages—twenty-two in the Amritsar District, and twelve in Lahore. The climate is good, and the rainfall heavy. The tract lies in the fertile alluvium. Attached to the State, there is also an extensive jaghir, nearly seven hundred square miles in extent, in Oudh, which was granted in 1859 for signal and loyal services during the time of the Mutiny. The late Maharajah Kharak Singh also added by purchase jaghirs in the United Provinces in the early seventies. The jaghirs yield an annual income of thirteen lakhs. About 57 per cent. of the population are Mahomedans, 30 per cent. Hindus, and 13 per cent. Sikhs. Nearly 70 per cent. of the people live by agriculture. The staple agricultural products are wheat, gram, maize, cotton and sugar-cane. . The country is poor in livestock, most of the finer breed of cattle required being imported. Irrigation is carried on mostly from wells, when the floods and rains fail. The State pays a tribute of Rs. 1,31,000. The Maharajah exercises full powers, the courts being similar to those in British territories. A police force of 270 constables with 24 officers is under the control of an Inspector-General. The Chief Secretary and two officers make up the State Council, and the central administration is under the control of His Highness. There are five tahsils, each in charge of a Tahsildar with power to dispose of revenue and civil cases to the value of Rs. 300. They also exercise second class magisterial powers. The final appellate Court is the State Council. In murder cases His Highness can pass sentences of death or imprisonment for life. The total revenue is over thirty lakhs, including the income from the jaghirs outside

the State. In the jail at Kapurthala, carpet and *dari* making are the chief industries. Education is provided in twenty-seven primary schools and five secondary schools, while, for purposes of higher education, there is a College at the capital.

The State forces include 496 Imperial Service infantry, 75 State cavalry, 204 infantry, and 18 artillery with a transport of 125 mules and 51 carts. The army has an excellent record of good service well done. It served in the Afghan war of 1879 and in the Kurram column of the Tirah expedition of 1897, when a body of thirty-five men belonging to it was ambuscaded and cut to pieces. The regiments are stationed at the headquarters.

The Chiefs of Kapurthala are of Rajput origin, connected with the present ruling house of Jaisalmir. Over three hundred years ago, one Sadhu Singh of that family had acquired four villages near Lahore and settled in one of them, Ahlu; hence the Kapurthala house is even now known as the Ahluwalia family. One of his descendants, Sardar Jasa Singh, a contempo rary of Nadir Shah and Ahmad Shah in the eighteenth century, made himself famous as the leader of the Sikhs. He was remarkable for his intelligence and bravery; and in the struggles for supremacy in the Punjaub between the Mahomedans and the Sikhs, it was mainly through the services of Jasa Singh, that the Sikh influence prevailed. It was he who drove out the Mahomedan Chief of Kapurthala and made that town the capital of his State. In the struggles with Ahmad Shah Abdulla Durani, Jasa Singh suffered many reverses, but finally came out successful, and was recognized as the foremost Sikh ruler of his time. He was a pious man too, and rebuilt the Sikh temple at Amritsar, which was blown up by Ahmad Shah, and also constructed the beautiful Ahluwalia Bazaar, an architectural ornament of that town. Jasa Singh was held in great esteem for his saintly and orthodox qualities, and under his influence the power of the Khalsa became consolidated. His death would have been a great calamity to the Sikhs but for the timely appearance of a still more able commander, Maharajah Ranjit Singh of Lahore—so well-known as the Lion of the Punjaub. The family lost its premier position during the days of Bhag Singh, a second cousin and successor of Jasa Singh, and his successor, Fateh Singh. This was due as much at least to the weakness of these two rulers as to the superior statesmanship of Ranjit Singh, who became the recognized Sikh leader of his time. It was Ranjit Singh and Fateh Singh together that concluded the treaty of 1806, by which the British undertook not to interfere with the trans-Sutlej tracts. Subsequently Fateh Singh lost more of his prestige until at last he dwindled into a mere vassal of Ranjit Singh. In 1825 his position became so bad that he sought the protection of the British abandoning

his estate to his overlord. In 1827 Ranjit Singh was forced to restore these tracts to Fateh Singh. In 1837 Fateh Singh was succeeded by his son, Nihal Singh. He was of a wavering disposition, and as might be expected under the influence of a ruler of such remarkable strength of will as Ranjit Singh, he was not as enthusiastic in his allegiance to the British as he should otherwise have been. In the first Sikh war, his attachment to the British cause was lukewarm, and so his cis-Sutlej tracts were escheated after the close of that war. He, however, stood loyally by the British in the second Sikh war, furnishing transport and supplies and proving himself a loyal and active ally. Lord Dalhousie created him a Rajah for his services. He died in 1852 and was succeeded by his son, Rajah Randhir Singh.

It was reserved for Rajah Randhir Singh to secure the lasting friendship and gratitude of the Paramount Power ; for his fidelity and loyalty were put to the test during the trying days of the Mutiny. The Rajah rose equal to the occasion, and, at the head of his men, he held Jullandar for the British until the fall of Delhi. In return for this timely service the title of Rajah-I-Rajgan was permanently bestowed on the family. There was also a reduction in the tribute. Later on for his share in the pacification of the districts of Oudh, the jaghirs already referred to were conferred on him. An adoption sanad was granted to him in 1862. He was invested with the insignia of G. C. S. I. by Lord Lawrence in 1864. He was most devoted to the British crown to the last day of his life. His great ambition was to visit England, and for this purpose he undertook a voyage in 1870 in spite of illness. He, however, died before he reached Aden. His corpse was taken back and cremated at Nasik, where a beautiful monument marks his last resting place.

His son and successor, Kharak Singh continued to rule until 1877. He showed signs of mental weakness, and this made it necessary to entrust the management of the State to a Council. But this system did not work successfully, and the State had to be put in charge of a Political Superintendent from 1875. Sir Lepel Griffin was the first of them. Kharak Singh died in 1877, and was succeeded by his five-year old son, Jagatjit Singh, the present ruler.

During his minority the State was managed by an officer of the Punjaub Commission, assisted by a Council composed of the principal State officials. The Oudh jaghirs were entrusted to the management of an uncle of the Chief, Rajah Sir Harnam Singh. Arrangements were made for the proper education of the young Rajah under capable tutors, and His Highness now knows five languages, English Sanskrit, Persian, Arabic and French. He married a Rajput princess in 1886. In 1890 His late Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence and Avondale honoured the State with a visit. Later, in the same year, the Rajah

was invested with full ruling powers. His Highness has travelled far and wide. His first visit to Europe was in 1893, and he has brought out a book detailing the experiences of his tour. He had the honour of dining with Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, more than once, and he was also received with marks of respect by the other crowned heads of Europe. In 1903 he visited Java, China and Japan, and in the last country he was entertained by His Imperial Majesty, the Mikado. All his sons have been educated in Europe. The State rendered good service to the British Government during the Afghan war, having furnished a contingent of 700 men under the command of Sardar Nabi Baksh, C. I. E. His Highness was made a K. C. S. I. in 1897 and a G. C. S. I. at the last Delhi Durbar, with the hereditary distinction of Maharajah.

The heir-apparent, the Tikka Sahib of Kapurthala, as he is generally known, was married on the 4th February 1911, amidst great festivities, and the number of distinguished visitors exceeded 250, including the Maharajah of Kashmir and some noblemen and princes of Europe. It is interesting to note that the Maharajah of Kashmir had attended the marriage of Maharajah Kharak Singh, the grandfather of the bridegroom. The bride, Sahiba Bindhra Mathri, a neice of H. H. the Rana of Jubbal, is a young princess of rare accomplishments, having been educated in Paris for over half a dozen years with the greatest care.

When His Imperial Majesty visited India as Prince of Wales in 1905, the Maharajah of Kapurthala attended the picturesque assembly of the Punjaub Chiefs at Lahore, and he and his well-trained troops attracted special attention by the trimness of their appearance. The Kapurthala forces, it may be remembered, distinguished themselves in the recent frontier disturbances, and many of them, therefore, wore the medals earned by them on those occasions.

His Highness takes a special interest in the welfare of his subjects, and at a durbar held in January 1912, he announced to them several boons, the chief of them being the extension of the elective system in municipalities, the introduction of water pipes into Kapurthala, and liberal grants for the education of the children of the poor. The opening of agricultural banks in the near future has also been promised.

The full titles of the Maharajah are—His Highness Farzand-i-Dilband Rasikhul-Iti-kad Daulat-i-Inglishia Rajah-i-Rajagan Maharajah Sir Jagatjit Singh Bahadur, G. C. S. I., Maharajah of Kapurthala. He is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

The ruling family of Kapurthala has long been known for its loyalty and devotion to the British Crown. The Maharajah and his children have come largely under European training and influence, and Kapurthala will ever remain a prominent Sikh State in the Punjaub, enjoying all the advantages of an enlightened and beneficent administration.

HIS HIGHNESS THE NAWAB SAHEB MUHAMMAD MAHABAT KHANJI NAWAB OF JUNAGADH

Junagadh is a first class Mahomedan State in the south-west portion of the Kathiawar Peninsula of the Bombay Presidency. It played a prominent part in the history of the Peninsula, when it was overrun by outlaws and dacoits, and neither life nor property was safe. But all that is now a tale of other times, and what we have is a flourishing modern State, which is at present under British administration owing to the minority of His Highness the Nawab Saheb.

The State covers an area of 3,284 square miles, flanked on two sides, west and south, by the Arabian Sea. The fine historic group of hills of Girnar, the highest peak of which, Gorakhnath, rises 3,666 feet above the sea-level, with its sculptured shrines and ancient temples, is a place of much archæological and antiquarian interest. The principal rivers are the Bhadar and the Sarasvati, the waters of which are used to irrigate a large tract of land under cultivation. There are also dense forests in the State, that in the Gir District being 1,200 square miles in extent. Teak, blackwood, Jambu and babul are the chief kinds of timber. The climate, on the whole, is healthy, but the summer months are extremely hot. The annual rainfall is about forty inches. In spite of the decrease due to famine and plague, the population of the State is 434,222 scattered over seven towns and 812 villages. The Hindus make up three-fourths of the total, the Mahomedans about a fifth, and the Jains and others represent the balance. The normal income of the State is nearly thirty lakhs. The army numbers about 813 men, 100 of these being Imperial Service Lancers, 57 body-guard, and 756 sibandi. The total of the police force is 1110. There are ten jails. The Chief exercises full powers, except in the case of British subjects for capital offences. There are about 130 educational institutions, of which one is an Arts College, and another a High School. Medical aid is afforded at twenty-one hospitals. Vaccination is popular. The State pays a tribute of Rs. 65,604 in

all to the British Government and to the Gaekwar of Baroda, but the Nawab of Junagadh also receives contributions, called *zortalbi*, amounting to Rs. 92,421, from a large number of Chiefs in Kathiawar. This levy is made through the British Government, and it is a relic of the days of Mahomedan supremacy. The State is known for its fine breed of horses, there being eight stallions at the capital. Irrigation is carried on mainly through wells. The ordinary products are cotton, wheat, millet, pulse, oil-seeds and sugar-cane. The coast line, well provided with fair-weather harbours, contributes towards the commercial prosperity of Junagadh. The State owns and works 126 miles of railway. There are eighteen Municipalities, the largest being that of the capital town. The British rupee is the chief legal tender, the local *kori* being used for small payments. The Nawab is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

It would appear that Junagadh was under the Chaudasama tribe of Rajputs until 1472, when it was conquered by Sultan Mahmud Begada of Ahmedabad; since then, it has continuously been a Mahomedan principality. During the days of Emperor Akbar, it was under the control of the Moghul Viceroy of Gujarat, but in 1735, Sherkhan Babi made himself independent of the Moghul control. The State has remained in the possession of his descendants ever since Sherkhan died in 1758. He was succeeded by his son, Nawab Mahabatkhan, who had a violent quarrel with his able Dewan, Amarji. The intrigues set on foot in connection with this affair brought on the State many troubles. Mahabatkhan died in 1775, when his son, Hamidkhan, was placed on the *gadi*, all the powers in the State, however, having been practically in the hands of the Dewan, Amarji. But as Amarji was murdered and his strong hand was withdrawn, the State was exposed to the raids of the neighbouring Chiefs. However, with the help of the relatives of Amarji, the Nawab was able to repel these attacks. Hamidkhan died in 1811, when his son, Bahadurkhan, succeeded him. His days again were full of troubles, the country having been distracted by intrigues, famine and pestilence. The Nawab was finally forced to seek the aid of the British in 1816, and he entered into a covenant with the East India Company in 1817, by which he waived for ever his right to *zortalbi* from certain States. There was, again, another covenant in 1821, according to which he consented "that the English should collect his *zortalbi* throughout the Province and retain one-fourth of the amount collected on account of the expense of recovering the same." In most respects the Nawab was a capable and even a humane ruler. In his time the practice of *Sati* was put down. In 1820 the Nawab married a daughter of the Rao of Cutch. All through his reign he was troubled by internal turmoils. He died in 1840, when his young son, Nawab Hamidkhan II, barely twelve years old, succeeded him. He

was a capable ruler, but he died of consumption in 1851, when his minor brother, Mahabatkhan, came after him. This Prince again suffered a great deal in his younger days from the intrigues of his mother and her favourite woman, Chaitibu. He was able to escape from them only through British intervention, when the intriguers were expelled from the palace. In all his trials he was most faithfully assisted by Wazir Bahauddin, who eventually rose to be the Prime Minister of the State. In 1870 he attended the Durbar held at Bombay in honour of the Duke of Edinburgh. He paid a second visit to that city in 1872, and was present there again in 1874 for the purpose of paying his respects to the Prince of Wales (His Majesty the late King Edward VII). At the Imperial Durbar of Delhi in 1877, at which His Highness was present, his personal salute was raised from eleven to fifteen guns. He died on the 29th September 1892, and was succeeded by his son, Bahadurkhanji. He was a class-fellow of the Thakore Saheb of Bhavnagar, at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot, in 1871. He had the benefit of good administrative training under his father, and when he came to the *gadi*, he was able to look into things himself and take a direct interest in administrative work. Under him the State entered on a course of development and progress. In 1890 he was invested by His Excellency Lord Harris with the insignia of a Knight Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire. He did many acts of public charity and usefulness during his time, the Bahadurkhanji Reservoir, near Rajkot, being one of them. His Highness had the honour of entertaining H. R. H. the late Duke of Clarence and Avondale in 1889, and founded the Leper Asylum at Junagadh in commemoration of the event. He was most loyal to the Supreme Government and ever ready to place all his military resources at its disposal. On the whole, during his time and that of his father, it is gratifying to notice that the Junagadh State spent a crore of rupees on acts of public utility. His Highness passed away in 1892, and was succeeded by his brother, the late Nawab Saheb Rasulkhanji, who remained the ruler of the State till 1911, when his place was taken by his eleven-year old son, the present minor Nawab, Nawab Saheb Muhammad Mahabat Khanji. The *Sunnat Shádi* ceremony of the young Prince was celebrated in 1912 amidst great rejoicings, when the Administrator pinned to his breast the gold medal awarded on the occasion of the last Coronation Durbar at Delhi.

Unlike the times of his predecessors, the period of Nawab Rasulkhanji's rule was one of peace, progress and prosperity. He was an able and sympathetic ruler, and, among his acts of public utility, may be mentioned the completion of the Albert Victor Leper Asylum, the geological survey of the Girnar Hills and Gir Forests, the settlement of Hati disputes in 1897, the opening of the new section of the railway from

Jetalsar to Rajkot in 1893, the formation of the Alienation Settlement Office in 1897, the building of a female hospital at Rajkot, the initiation of a comprehensive scheme of water-works, the founding of a Museum, the opening of the Curzon Canal, and the construction of the Junagadh College. His Highness took a keen interest in the preservation of archæological monuments, the most famous of which is the great Asoka Stone. Nearly a crore of rupees was spent on public works. He was ever ready to assist the Supreme Government in every possible way. He was made a K.C.S.I. in 1889 in recognition of his wise and liberal rule. His Highness had travelled widely in India. He was present at the Coronation Durbar of 1903; and when His present Imperial Majesty visited India in 1905 as Prince of Wales, he was among the Chiefs who received him in Bombay. In 1910 he was made a G. C. S. I. He was known for his hospitality, and the successive Governors of Bombay have borne testimony to his loyalty, successful administration, and generous disposition. His Excellency Lord Curzon paid a visit to Junagadh in 1900, when he opened the Bahauddin College and visited the Girnar Hill and its treasures, and performed the inaugural ceremony of the Curzon Canal.

His Highness was a staunch advocate of temperance, and by his orders, all liquor shops in the capital, except one, were closed.

Under His late Highness much was done to develop the State. Education, public works, medical aid and vaccination were all promoted. There is now an efficient hospital service. The railways form a valuable asset of the State. Besides the Jetalsar-Rajkot line in which the State has a six annas share in the profit, the Nawab Saheb owns a line of sixty-seven miles in length from Jetalsar to Verawal through the capital. A new branch to Bantwa was opened in 1911, and another to Bilkha and beyond in 1912.

The capital of the State is the ancient and most picturesque town of Junagadh, situated at the foot of the sacred mount Girnar. The ruins of the old palace of Chaudasamas, the former rulers of Junagadh, are found near the town, and those of Valabhipura, rich in Pali inscriptions of Asoka's time, are also there. The old fortress or citadel of Junagadh dates back to three centuries before Christ and encloses interesting specimens of ancient architecture. Several Budhistic caves lie concealed among the rocks. The new Law Courts were opened recently by the Agent to the Governor in Kathiawar.

The State is now managed by the Administrator, Mr. Laurence Robertson, I. C. S. The education of the minor Prince is in the hands of a capable Tutor and Guardian, Mr. W. Tudor-Owen, I.C.S. When the young Nawab takes up the responsibilities of the administration after the completion of his studies, he will no doubt enter on a heritage of which any Chief may be proud.



H. H. THE THAKORE SAHEB OF GONDAL

HIS HIGHNESS THE THAKORE SAHEB
SIR SHRI BHAGVATATSINHJI
G. C. I. E., M. D., F. R. C. P. E., D. C. L., LL. D., F. R. S. E., F. B. U., M. R. A. S., M. R. I. (GREAT BRITAIN), F. C. P. S. (BOMBAY)
THAKORE SAHEB OF GONDAL

Perhaps the most interesting of the Native States of the Western Presidency is the first-class State of Gondal, in whose ruler, His Highness the Thakore Saheb Shri Bhagvatsinhji, we find combined the traditional largeness of heart of the Indian monarch and the practical and progressive activity of the Western statesman. Gondal, in a marked degree, justifies what has been proved in the case of the City States of ancient Greece and of the Free Cities of other countries, that with efficiency in administration small autonomous areas attain the maximum of prosperity and progress in the shortest time. This Principality is enough to show that Native States are indispensable factors in the political advancement of the country as affording places for progressive administrative experiment. Many a political measure that cannot in the nature of things be undertaken in an extensive Empire might very well be tried in smaller self-governing tracts by able and sympathetic rulers. This is exactly what has happened in recent years in Gondal, under particularly favourable conditions.

The family of the Thakore Saheb is an ancient one. Its members belong to the Jadeja clan of the Lunar Dynasty of Rajputs. They seem to have originally established themselves in Sind, and later on they occupied Cutch by conquest. One branch of the family settled at Hallar in Kathiawar with the title of Jam. As the family progressed, the younger members went out founding new States, and that was how Gondal, Dhrol and Rajkot came into existence. The progenitor of the house was Kumbhoji I, who, about 1634 A. D., became the ruler of some twenty villages with Ardoi as capital. This was considerably added to by his successor, Sagramji I, who came to the *gadi* in 1649. He was a man of great military talents and obtained for services rendered to the Subahdar of Junagadh a grant of Gondal and eighty-six villages. It was he who made Gondal the capital of the State in 1653.

The State again became most powerful in the whole of Kathiawar, under Kumbhoji II. He made himself useful to the Ruler of Junagadh, as a reward for which he obtained vast estates from him and thus considerably enlarged his dominions. We then pass through the times of Muluji, Sangaji, and Devoji, to the beginning of the nineteenth century. About 1812 Sagramji II, a grandson of Devoji, was the Chief, and he came very much under British influence. The State made a marked progress during his time. He led a simple and unostentatious life and proved himself a capable and generous ruler. He died in 1869 leaving a child, four years old, the present Thakore Saheb, Shri Bhagvatsinhji.

The Government of Bombay took charge of the State and made arrangements for the education and training of the Prince. Of a shy and retiring disposition, the Thakore Saheb cultivated habits of study early in life, and distinguished himself at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot. He attracted the attention and elicited the admiration of every one that came in contact with him; and eminent educationists, like Macnaghten and Selby, entertained great hopes of his future. After completing his studies in the Rajkumar Collge, the Thakore Saheb went on a long tour to Europe in 1883. His impressions were given to the world in his "Journal of a Visit to England in 1883", which elicited warm praise from the press and the public. "The London Times" remarked that "the diary had a charm and an interest of its own from the freshness of its observations and the manly and loyal spirit which pervades it." "The Times of India" observed regarding the book:— "Some future Horace Walpole will have to include the young Thakore Saheb of Gondal in the Dictionary of Royal and Noble authors in which His Highness Bhagvatsinhji would take no mean place." Professor Vambery of Budapest was equally warm in his praises. "The Royal author," observed the Professor, "has displayed his views concerning the modes of civilization to be followed by England in India, and many of the counsels bear witness to his sound understanding, accurate knowledge of things, but, above all, glowing patriotism."

On his return to India the young Prince was associated in the administration of his State with Colonel H. L. Nutt. On the 25th August 1884, he was formally installed on the *gadi* and invested with full powers. In his speech on the occasion, the Thakore Saheb set before himself high ideals of duty and arduous tasks to be gone through for the improvement of the State; and as the "Times of India" remarked, "The high professions which the young Chief then defined have been kept clearly and practically in view." He became a Fellow of the Bombay University in 1884.

In 1886 the Thakore Saheb proceeded to Scotland to study medicine in the University of Edinburgh, where he stayed for over fifteen months and obtained the Degree of LL. D. At the Golden Jubilee of 1887, he was present in London as a representative of his brother Chiefs of Kathiawar, and received at the hands of Queen Victoria the insignia of a Knight Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire. On his return to India in August 1887, he was enthusiastically welcomed by his subjects. The Government of India was pleased to raise Gondal to the rank of a first class State "on account of its importance and advanced administration." In the same year the salute of the Thakore Saheb was permanently raised to eleven guns. The illness of Her Highness the Rani Sahiba, Shri Nand Kunvarba, again compelled His Highness to proceed to Europe. He remained in Edinburgh for a considerable time for the recruitment of her health, and His Highness made use of his long stay to complete his medical studies. He secured from the University the Degrees of M. B., C. M., and M. D. He became a Member and Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh; and in 1892 the University of Oxford conferred on him the Degree of D. C. L. His intellectual attainments have deservedly made him the idol of his subjects, who by public subscription had a bronze statue of His Highness put up at his capital, which was appropriately unveiled by His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda, the premier enlightened and patriotic Indian Prince of the Bombay Presidency. The Rani Sahiba soon recovered and was made a C. I. by Her Majesty the Queen. They were also present at the opening ceremony of the Imperial Institute by the Queen-Empress. By a circuitous tour round the world, the Rani and the Thakore Saheb returned to India in 1893, visiting, on their way, America, Japan, China, Australia, and Ceylon. At the Indian Medical Congress, Calcutta, His Highness represented the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, of which he is a Fellow. He was also elected an Honorary President of an important section of the eighth International Congress of Hygiene and Demography at Budapest, a Vice-President of the Indian Medical Association, and a Fellow of the Royal Society, Edinburgh. In 1896 for Messrs. Macmillan, His Highness brought out a very interesting book, called "A Short History of Aryan Medical Science", which elicited the warmest praise from every quarter. This indeed is a great patriotic work, and it would convince the ruling race how advanced the ancient Hindus were in the great Healing Art. His Highness was again in Europe in 1896-97, when he had the privilege of being present both at the Coronation of Tsar Nicholas II., at Moscow, and at the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen, who then personally conferred on him the distinction of G. C.I.E. At the

Centenary celebration of the Bombay branch of the Asiatic Society, he represented both the Royal Society of Edinburgh and the Royal Asiatic Society of London. His Highness was also instrumental in getting the curriculum of studies of the Chiefs' Colleges of India revised and made more useful to the Princes under training.

Of course His Highness is most loyal to the Ruling House of the Empire as one of his kind cannot fail to be, who has had ample opportunities of making a comparative study of the political institutions of both Europe and Asia, and of comparing the past history of his own country with its present condition. In evidence of his loyalty, His Highness has, on several occasions, rendered tangible help to the Supreme Power. He offered a site at Jetalser for locating the office of the Political Agent of Sorath. His Highness also placed all his trained horses at the disposal of the Government of India, for the Frontier Wars and for the War in the Transvaal.

As a ruler of such enlightenment and sympathy, His Highness is most accessible to his subjects, and it is no wonder that under him Gondal is considered a model Native State in India. Its land revenue does not bear heavily on the ryot; agricultural exhibitions are held for the benefit of the farmer; great irrigation projects have been undertaken, and well-irrigation is encouraged on a grand scale, nearly 40,000 acres having been brought under cultivation in this way. Loans are advanced to agriculturists. The Water-Works Schemes of Veri and Paneli lakes have cost the Durbar more than twelve lakhs of rupees. Import duties have been abolished, tram lines opened, railway lines extended, and communications improved. Ginning factories, cotton presses, and iron foundries have come into existence in large numbers. There are about 1,200 hand-looms for weaving cotton, woollen and silk fabrics. More than a crore and a half have been spent in all on works of public utility.

Himself a prince of great culture, His Highness takes the greatest interest in matters of education. The State maintains 108 schools including the Grasia College for the sons of landholders, a High School for boys, another for girls, vernacular schools and Sanscrit schools. Hostel arrangements have also been made where necessary. On the whole, the annual expenditure on education comes to nearly a lakh of rupees. Since his accession to the *gadi*, His Highness has spent about twenty lakhs on education. The Grasia College is on the model of an English public school and is maintained at an annual cost of Rs. 30,000. Scholarships are offered to deserving students that they may complete their studies elsewhere, and contributions to the extent of a lakh and a half have been made by the State outside its limits for educational purposes.



H. H. THE RANI SAHIBA OF GONDAL

The famine administration of His Highness reflects the greatest credit on him, nearly thirty lakhs having been spent in this direction; and this, without any strain on the treasury. It is certainly a matter for congratulation that the State should have come out of the great famine of 1900 with an increased population and without an emaciated figure.

Himself a great medical expert, His Highness is most enthusiastic in the matter of providing adequate medical relief to his subjects. The conception and working out of itinerant hospitals are due to His Highness's genius. By this means help is taken to the most outlying parts of the State. As Lord Harris observed, "His Highness's example may be copied not only in other Native States but also in British territory." There are two large hospitals and four dispensaries in the State. Three studentships have been established for training midwives at Gondal, and the Rani Sahiba has subscribed liberally to the Victoria Scholarship Fund. There is a poorhouse at Gondal for the infirm and diseased, and an orphanage, called after His Highness.

As a Chief of culture and taste, His Highness takes a keen interest in gardening. Regarding the Kailas Bag at Gondal, Lord Sandhurst remarked "The beauty of it I have seldom seen excelled." In the matter of municipal administration again the State has every reason to be proud. There are five municipal towns, and proper arrangements have been made for the sanitation of the rural tracts also. It is a matter for gratification that during His Highness's regime, the birth-rate has gone up by fifty and the death-rate has come down by thirteen per mille. His Highness exercises full criminal and civil jurisdiction over his subjects. The courts are similar to those in British tracts. Peace is preserved by a police force of 1,500 men maintained at a cost of a lakh and a half. The annual revenue of the State is over twenty-five lakhs.

It is unnecessary to detail the minor reforms that have been introduced by His Highness. A ripe product of western learning, the Thakore Saheb has consecrated his life to the service of his people, and his subjects cannot be sufficiently grateful to Providence for this boon. There is hardly any advanced method of statecraft but has found sympathy with and an advocate in His Highness.

No account of His Highness will be complete without a reference to his happy home life. He has in Her Highness the Rani Sahiba a real helpmate in all he does. She has brought out in Gujarati a book, called "Gomandala Parikrama" or "An account of a World-Tour". Her Highness was elected President of the Reception Committee of the third Gujarati Sahidtya Parishad, held at Rajkot on the 28th October 1909.

"The Master in the ship is judged by directing his course aright, and not by the fortune of the voyage." The Master of Gondal has directed his course "aright" and "the fortune of the voyage" was the tribute of loyalty and devotion paid to His Highness by his loving subjects on the 24th October 1909, when they celebrated his Silver Jubilee by the presentation of a congratulatory address enclosed in a silver casket of exquisite workmanship, by fitting demonstrations of joy and festivity throughout the State, and by the collection of Rs. 100,000 for the foundation of the Bhaghvatsinji Silver Jubilee Memorial Institute. Their address and His Highness's characteristic reply are worthy of reproduction.

To quote the address verbatim :—

We, the subjects of this State, whose destinies have been entrusted by beneficent Providence to Your Highness's care, most humbly, respectfully and loyally approach Your Highness on this auspicious occasion of the completion of 25 years of Your Highness's benign rule, to express our deep sense of the innumerable blessings conferred upon us by Your Highness.

With feelings of pride and satisfaction we are carried back to that most auspicious day, *the 25th of August* 1884, when Your Highness assumed the government of your State at the end of a minority extending over 14 years. On that memorable and historic occasion Your Highness gave expression to the following words which we have been cherishing as our most valuable possession :—' It will be my earnest desire to see that justice and order prevail in my State, that life and property are well protected, that the Kunbi enjoys the fruit of his labour, and the trader the profits of his trade, that roads are improved and communications facilitated, that education is encouraged, and provision is made for the relief of the sick-poor.' Further on, with regard to your subjects Your Highness was pleased to say, ' The study of their wants will be my special care, as their contentment and happiness will be my chief reward.'

Twenty-five years have rolled by, and Your Highness may well feel just pride in contemplating the fruits of a liberal and enlightened administration conducted with rare ability, devotion to duty, and an affectionate regard for your subjects. We humbly congratulate Your Highness on the complete success of your rule and the fulfilment of every one of Your Highness's promises.

The wheels of justice run smoothly and speedily in your law courts, and all facility is afforded to your subjects for the dispensation of justice. Security of life and property has increased 50 per cent.

The Kunbi has been given the right of ownership of houses, which he does not possess elsewhere, and also the privilege of alienating occupancy rights in land. He has got remission of Vighoti to the extent of Rs. 17,25,000 in times of famine or lean years. Tagavi loans on liberal terms have been advanced to him for the development of agriculture. Only recently, on the *25th of August* of

the present year, Your Highness made him a present of Rs. 4,00,000 to commemorate Your Highness's Silver Jubilee Day. The number of wells has doubled itself. Large Irrigation projects have been completed. The Veri Irrigation and Water Works, and the Paneli Irrigation Lake, costing Rs. 12,80,000, have ensured the safety of your subjects from famine and disease.

Every facility has been given to develop trade. Your Highness has abolished 40 taxes during the last 25 years and has recently taken the unprecedented step of abolishing import and octroi duties throughout the State, to mark the completion of 25 years of Your Highness's rule. Your Highness will be pleased to know that we deeply appreciate this boon, and the feeling is shared by Your Highness's subjects residing in Bombay, Burma, Africa and the other parts of the world.

The Public Works Department has been most active during the period. The spacious roads, of which a mileage of 100 has been added, are well-known for their excellence in the whole Province. The capital and principal towns have been adorned with magnificent buildings. Railways have received considerable extension at a cost of Rs. 38,00,000. Gondal and Dhoraji communicate with most of the villages by telephone, of which 156 miles have been added. In short, Your Highness has already spent the magnificent sum of Rs. 1,50,00,000, (a crore and a half of rupees) on works of public utility.

Education, under an educationist of Your Highness's attainments and academic distinction, has made the greatest progress. The number of schools has risen from 62 to 108, the number of boys from 3,230 to 7,962, the number of girls from 217 to 783, and the average annual expenditure from Rs. 11,000 to Rs. 61,000. In 1888, Rs. 13,000 were paid to teachers as salaries, while last year the sum amounted to Rs. 75,000. The total expenditure on education has gone up six times. The secondary education has had a large development : the Grasia College for Bhayats, Grasias and Jiwaidars, the Sagramji High School, the Monghiba High School for girls, and the Bhojrajji Hostel, bear ample testimony to Your Highness's keen desire for the spread of liberal education among your subjects.

Your Highness's love of education has not been confined solely to Gondal. The Rajkumar College at Rajkot, the Gujarat College at Ahmedabad, the Fergusson College at Poona, the University of Bombay, the Oxford Institute and the Indian Institute, Oxford, the Edinburgh University, the London School of Tropical Diseases, and other institutions, have benefited by Your Highness's generosity.

Your Highness has recently established two handsome prizes to be given annually to girls for the encouragement of English education, and to boys for professional qualification.

The destitute and the sick have found in Your Highness a real benefactor and a sympathiser with a loving heart. The Bai Saheb Ba Asylum was the first institution of its kind in the Province for dispensing well-directed charity. 'Blessed is he that considereth the poor.' And persons rescued from

death and despair bless Your Highness with heart-felt gratitude. The Hospitals and Dispensaries have been all improved and extended. The Medical staff has increased 40 per cent., the number of patients treated 50 per cent., and surgical operations 50 per cent.

The vital statistics reveal very satisfactory results. The birth-rate has increased 50 per mille and the death-rate has decreased 18 per mille.

The census of 1901, as compared with that of 1891, shows an actual increase in the population in spite of the terrible famine of 1900, during which year there was not a single death in the State due to starvation. This was mainly the result of the perfect organization, the close and constant supervision, the liberal policy and forethought of Your Highness's administration.

The time has come when all the classes and communities living under your beneficent government, should express their deep gratitude to Your Highness for making them *contented and happy* as was Your Highness's wish 25 years ago.

We beg to congratulate Your Highness on the domestic felicity the Almighty has graciously bestowed upon you. Her Highness Rani Saheb Shri Nandkunvarba, C.I., has won a warm corner in the hearts of the people by her sympathetic and kind nature, her piety, her efforts in the cause of social reform and female education, her literary gifts, and her universal philanthropy. We cannot forget the deep interest and personal trouble she took in alleviating the sufferings of the famine-stricken in the dire famine of 1900.

Yuvaraja Shri Bhojrajji has already won the affectionate regard of Your Highness's subjects by the simplicity, amiability and urbanity of his manners.

The manner in which Your Highness has ever made yourself accessible to all classes of the people, the kindness, courtesy, and the patience which have invariably characterized your intercourse with us, and the sympathy with our best interests so eminently displayed in Your Highness's administration, have left a deep and lasting impression on our hearts.

In conclusion, we earnestly implore the Most Gracious Father of us all that He may in His infinite kindness bless Your Highness and the members of your family with honour, happiness and prosperity, that He may grant Your Highness long life to rule over us, and that He may give us further occasions to offer you our grateful congratulations while celebrating Your Highness's Golden and Diamond Jubilees.

His Highness's reply runs as follows :—

My beloved people,

I am extremely obliged to you for your kind and courteous address. The tone of sincere loyalty pervading it has touched me very deeply. I thank you for your good wishes and for the appreciative terms in which you have referred to Her Highness and the heir-apparent. But no part of your address is more welcome to me than the one in which you tell me you are happy and contented. For my highest ambition has been to secure your contentment and happiness, and your assurance that they have been secured will encourage me in my endeavours to see that you have them in a greater degree.

It appears that you have been examining the record of the last 25 years. I too have been engaged in a similar enquiry. Our investigations have brought us to almost the same conclusion. But while we stand on the same ground, our outlook is in opposite directions. Looking back you have formed a generous estimate of what has been achieved and have expressed satisfaction at the result, perhaps you are exaggerating it. I, on the other hand, who have my eyes on the future, can see no end to the path of progress, and my ideal appears difficult of attainment. Still we must follow that path, keeping the ideal constantly in view. Appreciation of one's efforts in that direction is no small encouragement in the march, but the rate of advance really depends on the amount of co-operation. We must all unite in not allowing any disturbing element to obstruct or divert peaceful progress. Smooth and harmonious action can be secured only by the co-ordination of different factors and by defining the sphere of each in such a way that one does not overlap or interfere with the other. The business of the State is to clear the ground by removing obstructions and to provide facilities. The development of the various branches of education, art, industry and commerce as well as social reform must rest with the people.

With characteristic courtesy you refrain from alluding to any short-comings, real or apparent. Or perhaps you realize, what some do not, that criticism without a knowledge of all the facts is not of much value. In saying this I do not mean that my administration is free from defects, no human institution can be perfect. But I do mean that public good has been the object in every act of the administration and that personal consideration has never found a place in the conception or carrying out of any measure during the quarter of a century of my stewardship.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge publicly the support of all those who have loyally co-operated in driving the complex machinery of administration and to affirm solemnly that the interests of my dear subjects are deeply imbedded in my heart and that the prosperity of Gondal and the happiness of my people have always been and will ever remain the paramount consideration to the end of my time.

Blessed with an enlightened Ruler, of whom the people of the country are justly proud, and for whose efficient and sympathetic administration they are duly grateful, and endowed with rich natural resources, full of potentiality for further progress, Gondal is already recognised as a model State in the Indian Empire.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SIR SAWANT SINGH BAHADUR, K. C. I. E., MAHARAJAH OF BIJAWAR

The State of Bijawar is one of the guaranteed chiefships in the Bundelkhand agency, having an area of about 973 square miles. The name is said to have been derived from that of a Gond, Bijai Singh, the founder of the present town of Bijawar. It is bounded on the north by Chhatarpur, Charkhari and Orchha States, on the south by Charkhari, Panna and the Saugor District of the Central Provinces, on the east by Chhatarpur, and on the west by the Panna State and the Damoh District. The isolated tract of Karahiya is bounded on the north and south by Panna, on the west by the Panna State and the Damoh District, and on the east by the Ajaigarh State and Baronda. It lies in the low-lying natural Division of Central India, though the main section is here and there considerably cut up by hills. From the top of the Bijawar Fort one may command a good view of the surrounding country. On all sides there runs a net-work of hills rising nowhere to much over 1,600 feet above the sea-level, covered with a heavy jungle of small trees and brushwood. Only the country in the Karahiya Tahsil is formed of a level alluvial plain. Bijawar gives name to one of the most important geological formations in India, of which the State contains the type area. Rich deposits of a peculiar kind of iron ore are found in a number of places in the State.

It will not be out of place to give a short account of the Bundela (lit. Vindhyela) family, from which all the Bundela Chiefs, including the Maharajah of Bijawar, trace their descent. The Vindhyelas, corrupted afterwards into Bundela, are descendants of the Gaharwar family of Benares, who appear at one time to have held all the country in this region, with Benares and Mahoba as their centres. In A. D. 600 they were ousted by the Parihar Rajputs, and did not regain the ascendency for 800 years, when their descendants, the Bundelas, obtained possession of much of the old tracts. The Gaharwars of Benares are descended from Manu Vaivaswat

and Ikshvaku through Lava, the elder son of Ram. From Lava were descended two brothers, Canaksen and Gagansen. The former is said to have founded Vallabhipura in Gujarat in Sambat 201, or A. D. 144, while Gagansen went eastwards and established a kingdom for himself near Benares and Ayodhya in Sambat 239, or A. D. 182. Hemkarn, son of Karn Pal, Rajah of Benares, better known as Pancham, was the head of the Bundela clan ; and the first Bundela, who afterwards acquired power in this locality, was Sahanpal, who flourished early in the thirteenth century and established himself at Kundar in the Orchha State. Between 1269 and 1501 eight Chiefs ruled over Bundelkhand, and gradually extended the Bundela dominion. In 1501 Rudra Pratap succeeded and founded the Orchha town. He was a bold and energetic ruler, and all the Bundela chiefships in this country owe their origin to him. On Maharajah Rudra Pratab Singh's death in 1531, his eldest son, Bhartichand, succeeded him. The Bundela Chiefs of Dangahi were all descended from Udayajit, the younger brother of Bhartichand. Of all the rulers in Bundelkhand, Bir Singh Dev was the most famous. A man of great personality, and of few scruples, he soon acquired large territory and immense wealth. He was succeeded by Maharajah Jujhar Singh, a weak but turbulent chief, who involved the State in difficulties. After the revolt and subsequent death of Jujhar Singh, the whole of Bundelkhand was without a ruler. Taking advantage of this state of affairs, Champat Rai, son of Udayajit, commenced harassing the Moghuls, and finally established himself as the recognised leader of the Bundela clan. For sometime he was regarded with favour by Aurangzeb, whose army he led across the fords of the Chambal river before the battle of Samogurh. Later on he fell into disfavour and was attacked by Moghul forces. To escape capture, he was killed at his own request by his wife, who committed suicide immediately after. His son, Chhatarsal, though only a youth, carried on his father's work, and acting more systematically, soon acquired possession of Bundelkhand, east of the Dhasan river. By 1671 he was virtually the ruler of Bundelkhand, Orchha and Datia, though the last two were held separately by Chiefs of the same clan. Chhatarsal first established his capital at Kalinjar, and after consolidating his power, removed it in 1675 to Panna and Jaitpur. In 1729 the Emperor Mahomed Shah sent Mahomed Khan Bangash into Bundelkhand to check his growing power, and Chhatarsal was consequently driven away from Jaitpur. Reduced to extremities, he appealed for assistance to the Peshwa Baji Rao I, who gave a ready response, and Mahomed Khan Bangash, after a seige of six months, was expelled by the allies from Jaitpur. In 1731 Chhatarsal divided his vast possessions. The largest share, valued at thirty-nine lakhs annually, went to the eldest son, and a second including Saugor District, with an annual income of thirty-two

lakhs, was granted to the Peshwa in return for his services; while a third including Jaitpur, Banda, Ajaigarh, Charkhari, Bijawar, etc, was conferred on his third son, Jagat Raj. Jagat Raj had eleven sons, and gave Bijawar in 1769 to one of his sons, Bir Singh Dev. He extended his original holding, but was killed, while fighting against Ali Bahadur and Himmat Bahadur of Banda, in 1793. The latter restored the State to Keshri Singh, son of Bir Singh Dev, granting him a sanad in 1802. When the British came to hold supreme power, Rajah Keshri Singh at once transferred his allegiance to them. He was, however, carrying on a feud at the time with the Chiefs of Chhatarpur and Charkhari regarding the possession of certain territories, and his sanad was withheld until the dispute was finally settled. He died in 1810, and, the dispute having been settled, a sanad was granted to his son, Ratan Singh, in 1811 in return for the usual allegiance. Ratan Singh, on his accession, instituted a state coinage. He died in 1832 without issue. Disputes arose as to the succession, and finally the Government of India recognised Lachman Singh as the rightful Chief, and he ruled from 1832 to 1847. His son Bhanupratap Singh succeeded him. In 1857 Rajah Bhanupratap Singh was the ruler of Bijawar, who, with a considerable force, helped the English in driving the army of the rebel Nawab of Banda from Kabrai in the Hamirpur District. For the loyal services rendered during the troublous times of the Mutiny, His Highness received a khillat and a hereditary salute of eleven guns. In 1862 he obtained the sanad of adoption. In 1866 the hereditary title of Maharajah was conferred on him. In 1867 he was formally invested, under a sanad, with supreme criminal jurisdiction within the State. In 1877 on the occasion of the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi his title was amplified by the addition of Sawai to that of Maharajah. Maharajah Bhanupratap Singh's administration, however, plunged the State into financial difficulties, and, as he showed no sign of mending his conduct, Bijawar was placed under British supervision in 1897. Having no son, he adopted in 1898 Rao Rajah Sawant Singh, the present Chief, the second son of His Highness the Maharajah of Orchha. The Government of India having recognised the succession of Sawai Maharajah Sawant Singh to the Bijawar State, the installation ceremony was performed at Bijawar by Captain C. H. Pritchard, the Political Agent in Bundelkhand, on the 26th June 1900.

His Highness has doubtless been much profited by the advice of Captain Pritchard, given at the time of his accession, that His Highness should have a conciliating spirit, backed up by firmness and strong regard for justice and for the rights of his subjects. From the time His Highness took the reins of government into his hands, it has been his aim to become acquainted with the

works of all departments and with the details of administration. His Highness realises that it is the duty of the Chief of a Native State to devote himself to the work of governing with justice and honour and not to lead a life of careless ease. In 1905 the Imperial Government was pleased to confer upon His Highness full ruling powers. The Maharajah has all along taken a keen and direct interest in the well-being of his subjects. Indeed for some months His Highness practically managed his State single-handed in a manner which proved his fitness for the high position the late Maharajah Bhanupratap Singh and the Government of India had selected him for. Since his succession to the *gadi*, His Highness has introduced several reforms in the State. The land tenure has been revised ; a new survey and a new settlement of the land have been started ; the forest administration has been thoroughly reorganised ; and several other useful measures, tending to promote the welfare of the people and the efficiency of the management, have been put in hand. The present revenue of the State is about two lakhs and a half.

In the time of his predecessor, Maharajah Bhanupratap Singh, the State was on the brink of bankruptcy. In 1897 when the Government of India took over the administrative charge, there was a cash balance of only one rupee in the Treasury, and there were liabilities to the extent of nearly five lakhs of rupees. But the finances of the State now show a bright outlook. The debts contracted during the time of famine, as well as other liabilities, have all been liquidated. His Highness has been very generous in the matter of relieving his subjects in times of famine by remitting long-standing arrears and helping them in all other possible ways. He is easily accessible to all and ever prompt in punishing wrong-doers. He devotes his energies to make the durbar popular and respected. He is an excellent rider and a skilful marksman.

In 1905 His Highness had the privilege of an interview with their Royal Highnesses, then Prince and Princess of Wales.

His Imperial Majesty was pleased to confer on His Highness the Maharajah Bahadur the distinction of a Knight Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, at the Delhi Coronation Durbar of 1911.

In the work of administration the Maharajah Bahadur has been ably assisted, from 1908, by the present talented Dewan, Pandit Shri Ram Nait, whose meritorious services in the Orchha State have already earned for him recognition at the hands of the Government of India. Under their joint care the State has completely recovered from its difficulties, and it is already on the road to prosperity.

HIS HIGHNESS
THE MAHARAJAH VISHWANATH SINGH BAHADUR
MAHARAJAH OF CHHATARPUR

Chhatarpur is one of the principal Sanad States in the Bundelkhand Political Charge of the Central India Agency. It has an area of 1,118 square miles. The nearest Railway stations are Mahoba and Harpalpore on the Jhansi-Manickpur section of the G. I. P. Ry., equidistant (about thirty-four miles) from Chhatarpur, with an excellent Tonga service from Harpalpore to the capital.

The whole State is situated in the low-lying natural division of Central India, and consists of a level plain with a mean elevation of 600 feet above the sea-level, well-covered with trees and watered by numerous tanks. In the Deora Pargana, however, the country is much cut up by hills covered with forest. The hills belong to the Vindhyan system and form part of the Panna range with an average elevation of 1,600 feet above the sea. The most important river in the State is the Ken, which flows along the eastern border for a distance of over fifty miles. There are also a few other rivers, none of them of any considerable size, and all dried up for six or seven months every year. The other streams are almost all tributaries of the Ken.

The climate is comparatively temperate, a hot wind being common in summer. The average annual rainfall is forty-six inches. The fauna and flora of the State are similar to those found in the other parts of Central India. Among the large species of animals, leopards, bears, and deer are common, but the jungles are nowhere such as to afford good cover for big game.

No mines nor minerals of importance exist in the State. The principal exports are tili, ghee, betel leaves, mahua flowers and fruit, soap, chironji, lac, tat-patties, gum, bees-wax and honey; and the principal imports are rice, piece-goods, hardware, metals and metal-goods, grain, grocery, salt, tobacco, sugar, molasses and spices.

The population, according to the Census of 1911, is 166,985. The total revenue from all sources amounts to about Rs. 4,15,000 per annum,

and the expenditure to about Rs. 3,65,000. The former capital of the State was Rajnagar. The present capital, Chhatarpur, is fifteen miles from Nowgong, and was founded in 1707 by the well-known Maharajah Chhatar Sal of Panna. Its population in 1911 was 10,415.

The State was at first a part of Panna. It was founded in the latter part of the eighteenth century by Kunwar Sone Shah Panwar, a relation of Maharajah Hindupat of Panna. On Hindupat's death in 1776; the Panna State was temporarily thrown in confusion, and about 1785 Kunwar Sone Shah Panwar came in possession of the Jaghir. He defeated the forces of Panna at Jhumar and added much territory to the Jaghir during the disturbed period of the Mahratta invasion, and was subsequently confirmed in his possession, first by Nawab Ali Bahadur of Banda, and then, in 1806, by the British Government. On Sone Shah's death, his eldest son, Pratap Singh, was recognised as his successor by a Sanad granted in 1817, while the remaining four sons obtained shares, which reverted to the State on their demise. One of these shares included a grant of three villages to the Dikshit family of Bilahri, the Muafidar having been declared to be a guaranteed feudatory of the Chhatarpur State, a position which was reaffirmed in August 1906 on the succession of the present Muafidar.

Pratap Singh died without issue, and the State, therefore, escheated to the British Government. It was continued, however, to his adopted son, Jagat Raj, under a new sanad of 1854, in consideration of the loyalty and fidelity of the family. The old provision, limiting the succession strictly to male heirs, has since been abrogated by the adoption sanad granted by Lord Canning in 1862.

From 1854 to 1863 the State was administered by Pratap Singh's second Rani and was under British supervision from 1863 to 1867, when Jagat Raj, then twenty-five years of age, was given powers of administration. He, however, died shortly after, leaving a child the present Chief, just fourteen months old. The State again came under British superintendence and remained so up to 1887 (the Dowager Rani acting as Regent for two years from 1876 to 1878), when the young Rajah Vishwanath Singh was given powers. In 1897 the title of Maharajah was conferred on him as a personal distinction. His Highness is an educated Chief and has evinced great interest in conserving and restoring the ancient monuments in the State.

There are numerous archæological remains, the most important collection of buildings being at Khajraho, where perhaps the finest group of temples in Northern India is to be seen. The other objects of interest are the Chhatar Sal's cenotaph at Mau, the Ken waterfall at Raneo, and the palace at Rajgarh. The important public buildings of

the State are the palace, the courts, the high school, the dispensary, and the guest-house at the capital, and the old palace and the hospital at Rajnagar. The High School at the capital, teaches up to the Matriculation standard of the Allahabad University, and there are also sixty-three primary schools in the Parganas, where Hindi is generally taught. The High School is 250 strong, and the primary schools in the interior are attended by over 1,100 children.

The regular force of the State consists of 80 officers and men, and the irregular force of about 150 men. For administrative purposes the State is divided into four Tahsils (Revenue Divisions)—Chhatarpur, Rajnagar, Lonri, and Deora, and into six thanas (police stations)—Kotavali, Mau, Malehra, Rajnagar, Launri, and Kishangarh. The Chief exercises full administrative powers. Next to him is the Minister or Dewan, who is the chief Executive Officer. The principal departments of administration are the Durbar Khas, presided over by the Maharajah, and the Durbar Office under the control of the Dewan. The other departments in charge of respective officers are the Nizamat, the Revenue and Accounts, Police, Education, Medical, Public Works, and the Army.

The Chief bears the hereditary titles of "His Highness" and "Rajah Bahadur" and the personal distinction of "Maharajah", and is entitled to a salute of eleven guns. On State occasions an umbrella, Chour, and the flag decorated with the State Coat-of-arms are borne before him, and the herald calls out his usual titles His Highness the Maharajah Vishwanath Singh Bahadur, the present Ruler, was born on Bhadon vadi, 4th Sambat 1923 (29th August 1866), and succeeded his father, Jagat Raj, in 1867. He was educated at the Raj Kumar College, Nowgong, and subsequently under the tutorship of Sir (then Mr.) Theodore Morison, now a Member of the Council of the Secretary of State for India. The Maharajah married in February 1884 the daughter of His Highness the Maharajah Sir Pratap Singh Bahadur of Orchha, G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E. He has no issue. He has three uncles and eight cousins living, and they all hold Jaghirs in the State.

The present Chief Minister of the State is Pandit Shyam Behari Misra, M. A., of Lucknow. He belongs to the Provincial Civil Service of the United Provinces, having served as a Deputy Superintendent and officiated as a Superintendent of Police. His services have been lent to the Chhatarpur Durbar by the Government of India. He has worked in the State for two years; and during this short period, he has introduced many valuable reforms and greatly improved the administration. He is an accomplished writer of Hindi prose and verse

Under the able rule of the Chief and his Minister the State has made very good progress, and it bids fair to have greater prosperity in the future.



H. H. THE RAJAH OF RATLAM

MAJOR HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH SIR SAJJAN SINGH BAHADUR, K. C. S. I., RAJAH OF RATLAM

Ratlam is the premier Rajput State in the Malwa political charge of the Central India Agency with an area of 902 square miles, of which 455 square miles are held by Jaghirdars, and 447 are *khalsa* or lands under the immediate control of the Durbar. In addition to this, sixty villages, covering an area of about 228 square miles, are in the possession of the Chief of Kushalgarh in Rajputana, on payment to the State of a *tanka* of Rs. 600. The population is 85,000, and the annual revenue comes to about nine lakhs. 62 per cent. of the people are Hindus, and the rest Mahomedans, Jains and Animists. More than 40 per cent. live by agriculture. Rangri is the principal language. Geologically the State is in the Deccan trap area, and the soil partakes of the properties common to such formation. The Vindhyan sandstone, which is quarried near the capital city, is useful for building purposes. The soil, being of the black cotton variety, is fairly fertile, and the principal crops are wheat, maize, gram, cotton and poppy. The capital of the State is the clean and well laid-out town of Ratlam, 1,577 feet above the sea-level. The Rajah's palace is the most important building in the place. There are, besides, a number of religious establishments or *Thanaks*, belonging to the Jains.

The Chiefs of Ratlam are Rathor Rajputs of the Ratnawat or Ratnaut branch. They are descended from Maharajah Udai Singh of Jodhpur. Dalpat Singh, the seventh of Udai Singh's seventeen sons, had a son, Maheshdas, whose eldest son was Ratan Singh. The latter distinguished himself in the services of the Emperor Shah Jahan, especially in the wars against the Persians in Khorasan and in quelling the rebellion of the Usbegs in Khandahar, both forming frontier provinces under the then Emperor of India. There is an anecdote about his fighting a wild elephant, with only a dagger in hand. In return for his conspicuous services, Shah Jahan conferred on him about the year 1648 extensive tracts in Malwa with the title of Maharajah, and the insignia of Mahi-Maratib (the Order of the Fish) and raised him to the command of 3,000. Ratan Singh ultimately fixed the village of Ratlam as his capital and settled down there. He was killed in the battle of Ujjain near Dharmatpur or Fatehabad, on the 20th April 1658. His next three successors were Ram Singh (1658-82), Shiv Singh (1682-84), and Chhatarsal (1684-1709). The death of his eldest son, Hate Singh, made Chhatarasal retire from the *gadi* after dividing

the country among his two surviving sons, Kesri Singh and Pratap Singh, and his grandson, Beri Sal, Hate Singh's son. This resulted in a dispute among them. The grandson retired to Jaipur, and his jaghir lapsed into Ratlam under Maharajah Kesri Singh. The fight between Kesri Singh and Pratap Singh ended in the death of the former on a battle-field in 1716. His sons, Man Singh and Jai Singh, attacked their uncle, Pratap Singh, to avenge their father's death and killed him at Sagod. Man Singh then mounted the *gadi* of Ratlam, and conferred the jaghir of Sailana on his younger brother, Jai Singh, from whom the Sailana family is descended. Ratlam thereafter seems to have had a peaceful existence until it was disturbed by the Mahrattas under Sindhia and Holkar in the days of Rajah Padam Singh. Unable to withstand their exactions, Rajah Parvat Singh took to arms and inflicted a severe defeat on Sindhia. Through the intercession in 1819 of Sir John Malcolm, further bloodshed was averted, and a treaty was entered into with Sindhia, by which the political autonomy of Ratlam was recognized on an annual payment of a tribute of Rs. 42,000, which has since been transferred to the British. Peace was thus secured for the State through British protection. In 1864 all lands necessary for railways were ceded by the State. Transit duties on salt were abolished in 1881 for an annual compensation of Rs. 1,000, and the other transit duties also were abolished in 1885 except the one on opium. Prior to 1887 the sayar revenue of the Sailana State was collected by the Ratlam Durbar as a suzerain right, but under the agreement of 1887 Ratlam received annually Rs. 18,000 S. S. from Sailana as compensation for relinquishing its (Ratlam's) right to levy customs dues in Sailana. This agreement was re-adjusted in 1902, whereby the Ratlam Durbar now receives Rs. 6,000 British currency and exempts Sailana goods from all customs dues, except octroi. Rajah Ranjit Singh, who was made a K. C. I. E. in 1887, died in 1893, and he was succeeded by his son, the present Chief, Rajah Sir Sajjan Singh, when he was hardly thirteen years old.

The young Prince was educated at the Daly College, Indore, and was invested with full ruling powers in 1898. In 1902 he married a daughter of H. H. Sir Khengharji Bahadur, the Rao of Cutch. The next year he joined the newly-inaugurated Imperial Cadet Corps, and attended the Delhi Durbar held by Lord Curzon as a member of that corps as well as a Ruling Chief. He retired from the corps in March 1903 as an Under Officer. His Highness was present at Indore in 1905 to meet Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, and he also formed one of His Royal Highness's escort in Calcutta. In February 1908, a Captaincy in his Majesty's army was conferred on His Highness, and in June 1909, he was made a K.C.S.I. In December 1911, the King-Emperor appointed the Rajah Sahib

a Major in His Majesty's Indian Forces. In the Coronation Polo Tournament between the Scouts captained by His Highness and the 10th Hussars played in Calcutta on the 3rd January 1912, His Highness's team came out successful and won the gold cup, which was presented to the Rajah Saheb by His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor in person. His Highness was gazetted Honorary A. D. C. to the King-Emperor on the 6th July 1915.

The Chiefs of Ratlam are related by consanguinity to the Maharajahs of Jodhpur, Bikanir, Kishangarh and Idar, and are connected by marriage with those of Udaipur, Cutch, Rewa and Dhrangadhra. His Highness is considered the principal Rajput leader in Western Malwa, and all religious disputes among Rajputs in those parts are referred to him for decision. He enjoys a salute of eleven guns.

For administrative purposes the State is divided into two tahsils: Ratlam and Bajna. The Durbar Court, presided over by the Chief, is the final authority in all administrative and civil and criminal matters; but criminal cases involving a death sentence require the confirmation of the Agent to the Governor-General.

The State army consists of a body of regular cavalry of forty-one sawars, known as the Sajjan Risala, and 100 regular infantry, furnishing guard to the palace, etc., with five serviceable guns and twelve gunners. A corps of Despatch Riders for Imperial service has been maintained since 1909. Besides this, there is a regular police force of 298 men under a Superintendent. The central jail is located at Ratlam, and there is a district jail at Bajna. Provision for education is made in the Ratlam Central College and in fifty other educational institutions. There is a school for girls at the capital. The other buildings of importance are a dak-bungalow and a guest-house surrounded by a public garden with zoological collections. Ratlam is at the junction of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway, and the Ratlam-Baroda branch of the Bombay-Baroda and Central India Railway.

The following is a happy character-sketch of His Highness by a high political officer who has known him well:—

In His Highness we all recognize the best type of a Rajput gentleman, as high a type as can be found, a thorough sportsman who has never failed to play the game, a capable ruler who works steadily and unostentatiously for the good of his people, a loyal Chief second to none in devotion to the Crown, and a brave soldier who, if occasion arose, would not hesitate to show in the cause of the King-Emperor the same splendid valour and self-sacrifice that won for his great ancestor, Ratan Singh, undying glory on the fatal field of Fatehabad.

Ratlam is a State which is ruled on the best Rajput traditions of chivalry and large-heartedness.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH SIR JESWANT SINGH BAHADUR, K. C. I. E., RAJAH OF SAILANA (CENTRAL INDIA)

It is well-known that the history of many an Indian Principality is, up to a certain point, the history of its neighbours. Ratlam and Sailana afford an instance of such correspondence. The rulers of both States are Rathor Rajputs, and have a common ancestry with the Maharajahs of Jodhpur. Ratlam was founded by the heroic Ratan Singh, whose great-grandfather, Udaya Singh, had occupied the Marwar throne towards the close of the sixteenth century. Mahesh Das, the father of Ratan Singh, rendered signal services to the Emperor Shah Jehan, who rewarded him with the grant of a great number of villages. Ratan Singh attended the Imperial Court of Delhi when a young man of twenty-three, and there distinguished himself by boldly attacking and wounding a mad elephant which had broken loose in the streets of the city. The Emperor, pleased with the courage of the young Prince, bestowed upon him a rich State comprising twelve large districts in Malwa yielding a yearly income of Rs. 53,00,000. Ratan Singh was killed in battle against Aurangzeb and Morad, who were proceeding to Delhi ostensibly to see their father, the Emperor, who was then lying ill, but in reality to usurp power. Ratan Singh was succeeded by his eldest son, Ram Singh, who founded the city of Ratlam to commemorate his father's and his own name. This Prince, after a reign of twenty years, died, like his father, in a field of battle. Shiv Singh next occupied the *gadi* and, when he died issueless, the throne was seized by Kesheo-Dasji, the son of Ram Singh, in spite of the opposition of the leading nobles. He, however, incurred the displeasure of the Emperor Aurangzeb, and, on his dethronement, Ratlam was first made Khalsa, and then handed over to Chhatra Sal, one of the surviving sons of Ratan Singh. Chhatra Sal, who had already fought valiantly in the campaigns against Bijapur



H. H. THE RAJAH OF SAILANA

and Golconda, as well as at Raigarh and Jhinji, marched in 1709 with the Imperial army to the Deccan. In the action of Parnala his eldest son, Hatte Singh, who had accompanied him, was killed, and Chhatra Sal, overpowered with grief, renounced all his connections with the world, and thereafter lived at Ujjain, the life of a recluse. He left his dominions to be administered by his son, Keshri Singh, and at the old Rajah's death, the territories, along with the right of levying customs dues, were apportioned in three equal parts among his two sons, Keshri Singh and Partab Singh, and his grand-son, Bairi Sal, the rightful heir. Ratlam fell to the lot of Keshri Singh, Partab Singh received Raoti, (the Sailana State), while Dhamnod was given to the grand-son. The apportionment was anything but satisfactory to Partab Singh. Bairi Sal quitted the scene of dissension for the Court of Jaipur, leaving Dhamnod to his uncle, Keshri Singh, the ruler of Ratlam. Partab Singh demanded half the territory which had been relinquished by his nephew, but Keshri Singh stood against his claims. Partab Singh thereupon killed his brother, and in 1717 assumed the government of Ratlam, in addition to his territories of Raoti. This Prince, not blessed with a male issue, had previously adopted Jey Singh, the younger son of the brother he had murdered. Upon the death of his father, Jey Singh fled from Ratlam, collected an army, and, aided by Lalgarh and other kinsmen, marched upon the State. Partab Singh was killed, and his army was routed with great loss. Jey Singh then took possession of Ratlam. Honourably mindful of the claim of his elder brother, he invited Man Singh to occupy the throne, and, on his arrival from Delhi, advanced to meet him at Mandsour, whence the two brothers returned to Ratlam in triumph. Man Singh was placed upon the *gadi* of Ratlam, and Jey Singh on that of Raoti. (Vide Lalji Kulguroo's book and the Narak vachan of Lachman Singh written by himself in Samvat 1882 and kefiyat of Ratlam *re* Maratib case, in Samvat 1818). Subsequently Jey Singh removed his capital from Raoti to Sailana, which, to-day, gives its name to the State.

Devi Singh, the eldest son of Jey Singh, died before his father without issue. His second brother, Daulat Singh, was not allowed to succeed on account of his mental defects. The succession devolved on Jeswant Singh, who, after a reign of fourteen years, died without an heir. Ajab Singh, the fourth brother, now succeeded to the *gadi*, but Daulat Singh stood against him. In the struggles that followed, the valiant Ajab Singh was assisted by the Chiefs of Ratlam and Sitamau, and Daulat Singh was completely defeated. When the Marathas overran Central India, Sailana, in common with other States, became tributary to Sindhia, an annual payment being demanded of 42,000 Salim Shahi rupees. In spite of this payment Sindhia's hordes constantly pillaged the country, and in 1819 Lakshman Singh sought the aid of the British. Through the

mediation of Sir John Malcolm an agreement was concluded by which the tribute was guaranteed to Sindhia, and the Maharajah of Gwalior, in return, undertook never to interfere with the administration of the State or the succession. Lakshman Singh, Ratan Singh, Nahar Singh, and Takhat Singh, successively ruled the State. After the death of the Prince last named, in 1850, he was succeeded by his son, Duleh Singh, a boy of ten. During his minority the management of the State was undertaken by the British Government. The surviving Rani of Ratan Singh was placed at the head of a Council of Regency, and Mir Sahamat Ally was nominated joint Superintendent. On attaining his majority in 1859, Duleh Singh was given sole control of the State.

The Godra-Ratlam-Nagda Railway and the Rajputana Malwa Railway pass through the territories of Sailana. Over the lands required for the first-named line, the State, in accordance with an agreement concluded in 1864, ceded in 1891 all rights of jurisdiction to the British Government. By virtue of two agreements arranged in 1880 and 1883, the State abolished all transit duty on salt passing through Sailana, and received as compensation a payment of Rs. 412-8 per annum. Transit duty on all articles of consumption except opium, was abolished in the Sailana territory in 1887.

After reigning forty-five years, Rajah Duleh Singh died in October 1895. Eleven years previously he had adopted as his heir Jeswant Singh of Semlia, who therefore took up the succession and is the present Chief. His Highness was born on the 3rd September 1864. He was educated at the Rajkumar College, Indore, and, at the time of his accession, was thirty-one years of age. The installation was conducted by Colonel (now Sir David) Barr, the Governor-General's Agent in Central India, on the 24th December 1895, when His Highness was invested with full governing powers. The early years of his rule had been marked by considerable improvements, the Rajah having exhibited a constant anxiety to administer his territories wisely. When Duleh Singh died, Sailana was left with a heavy burden of debt, and its affairs fell into considerable disorder. His successor promptly applied himself towards setting right the financial tangle, and, with the aid of competent Dewans, effected considerable progress in that direction, though the famine of 1899-1900 naturally caused a set-back, burdening the State with a debt of a lakh of rupees. The first Minister was the late Khan Bahadur Nowroji Manekji Khory, who was succeeded by Mr. Pyara Lal, Barrister-at-Law, who, in his turn, was succeeded by the present Dewan, Rai Saheb Pandit Rajkishan. Among the tangible evidences of progress may be mentioned the hospital and the schools which have been opened in recent years, and the public buildings and the excellent roads constructed. The British Government, in appreciation of His Highness's excellent services, especially of those

rendered to the people during the famine of 1899-1900, conferred upon him, on the 1st January 1901, a Kaisar-i-Hind Medal of the first class. The published official reports of British officers respecting His Highness's famine administration, were of a deservedly complimentary character. For example, writing on May 30, 1900, respecting a tour of the relief works in and about the capital, taken under the personal conduct of His Highness, Lieut. H. Stewart, Famine Assistant in Malwa, observed: "The condition of the people is excellent; the Rajah takes the keenest personal interest in his relief works; and owing to the thorough manner in which they have been instituted in all parts of his State, I am confident that there has been little or no distress." This testimony was endorsed by Capt. W. M. Cubitt, the Political Agent in Malwa, in his report for the year 1900-01, and the Rajah and his Dewan were warmly commended for their exertions. The report added that the famine administration and the concurrent loss of revenue had put a heavy strain upon the financial position of the State, and some years of careful management are likely to free it from debt ; and special reference was made in it to the satisfactory character of the administration of justice in the State.

The Rajah of Sailana is entitled to a salute of eleven guns. The military force which he maintains consists of 160 cavalry, and five guns. His State has an area of 500 square miles, and yields a revenue of about four lakhs of rupees. The population at the last Census was 25,731 as against 31,512 in 1891. The decrease of 18 per cent was due of course to emigration and enhanced mortality during the famine period. Sailana is in the Malwa division of the Central India Agency, and the capital town is situated twelve miles to the north-west of Ratlam.

In 1904 when Lord Curzon arranged a Conference to consider the reorganization of the Mayo College, His Highness, as one of the most enlightened Princes of Central India, was selected as a representative. Afterwards he became a permanent member of the General Council of the College. He is also a permanent member of the Daly College Council.

Under His Highness's beneficent rule, other signs of social progress are manifest. Hospitals and Schools for both sexes have been founded, magnificent palaces and temples built, gardens and roads made. Thousands of mango trees now line the road-sides, and tanks have been constructed and wells sunk where need for such existed. Sanitary conditions are immensely improved ; and the streets of the capital have been widened and the lighting of them arranged for.

Among the new buildings are the temples of Kalka Mata and Govind Deoji, Rang Mahal, Gagan Arch, Clock Tower, Keertiasthambha, Resala lines, Kul Karkhana, and Mallani Bridge, a School, and the grand Palace called Jeswant Niwas, built at a cost of Rs. 2,00,000, and famous for its great marble pillars and the biggest Arch Hall in Central India. The

reconstruction of the Fort and the Well of Govind Kund are also results of the rule of the present Rajah, the well being in memory of his late Rani, Govind Kunwar Kachwaiji, of Machhand, whose death was a great blow to him. Since that time he has worn mourning and has not appeared at any State ceremonials.

The Chhatri of Ratan Singhji the Great was built at Fatehabad at a cost of Rs. 23,000 some 250 years after the death of the Prince it commemorates. The land was obtained from Maharajah Sindhia, and Ratlam and Sitamau subscribed liberally for it.

The interest of His Highness in learning is exemplified by the establishment of a Club and Library in the capital, and the royal patronage was of immense value in establishing the Sailana Bank, now in a sound and flourishing condition. The industrial possibilities of the State have been developed to some purpose, and there are a weaving mill and a ginning factory, while trade in general has been so greatly encouraged by the abolition of obnoxious duties that it has grown to ten times its former value in the past twenty years. The copper coins of the State are struck at the Government Mint. On one side they bear the bust of the King-Emperor and on the reverse "Sailana Raj" in Hindi.

Among other reforms introduced by His Highness may be mentioned a system of local self-government including a Municipality for the town of Sailana, and the revival of the village panchayats. Schemes under consideration include compulsory education throughout the State, electric light for the town, and the connection of Ratlam and Sailana by railway. Details of the latter project have already been submitted to the Political Agent. The State proposes to finance the construction of the line, and the prospects of the scheme are most hopeful. In accordance with the wishes of the Government of India, a tract of land has been acquired at Delhi, so that State buildings may be constructed there in due course. His Highness has opened a Famine Fund and intends to introduce a Famine Insurance, whereby those that contribute to it will receive food free of charge in times of scarcity.

Regarding the Minto-Morley scheme to enlarge the Viceroy's Council and to appoint an Advisory Council of the Ruling Chiefs, the views of His Highness were invited by the Government of India in 1907 with special reference to the latter proposal.

A gracious act of His Highness was the reconciliation of the houses of Ratlam, Sailana and Sitamau, when Rajah Ram Singhji of Sitamau was adopted from Kachi Baroda. The three rulers met at Fatehabad to consult concerning the erection of Maharajah Ratan Singhji's Chhatri there, and His Highness seized the opportunity to establish the good-will which at present prevails. His relations with the Jodhpur house are cordial in the extreme. The Maharajah of Jodhpur delights to honour him and in his

letters addresses His Highness as Rajah Dhiraj. When the Rajah visits Jodhpur, he is received at the railway station by the Maharajah, who performs Nichharaval of two gold mohurs, while in return His Highness offers him a nazar of five and performs a Nichharaval of two gold mohurs.

During the present reign many Ruling Chiefs have visited Sailana and exchanged khillats with the usual ceremonials. Among these guests may be mentioned the Maharaj Kunwar of Orchha (Tikamgarh), the Maharaval of Dungarpur, K. C. I. E., the Maharaval of Banswara, the Maharawat of Partabgarh (Rajputana), the Rajah of Dewas, S. B., the Nawab of Jaora, the Rajah of Ratlam, the Rajah of Sitamau, the Rajah of Narsingarh and the Rana of Barwani; but perhaps the most interesting of all is His Highness Maharajah Sir Sayaji Rao Gaekwar, G.C.S.I., of Baroda.

The last great event of importance in the annals of the State was the Coronation Durbar at Delhi in 1911, for which His Highness received an invitation Kharita from His Excellency the Viceroy.

Accompanied by his Dewan, he attended the Durbar and received a Coronation Medal and Their Imperial Majesties' photographs with autograph signatures. The Dewan, Pandit Rajkishan, was the recipient of the title of *Rai Saheb*, and the Rajah's two younger sons, Maharaj Kunwar Mandhata Singhji and Ramchandra Singhji, had the honour of being appointed pages to Her Imperial Majesty Queen-Empress Mary, who conferred on them diamond badges as marks of honour. Seven Sardars of the State also received Coronation Medals. His Highness presided over the meetings of the Kshatriya Upakarini Maha Sabha at Delhi, of which he is now Vice-President. He is also Vice-President of the Sanatan Dharm Maha Mandal.

HisHighness has five surviving sons and three daughters; one son and two daughters had died in infancy. The young Princes are receiving their education at the Mayo College, Ajmer, and the first two are studying in the Post Diploma class, which is equivalent to the Degree of Bachelor of Arts. The heir-apparent, Maharaj Kunwar Dileep Singhji, married the daughter of His Highness the Maharavat of Devlia-Partabgarh, but, sad to relate, she died fourteen months later.The second son, Bharat Singhji, has been adopted in Multhan, a family descended from one of the twelve sons of the great Ratan Singhji. Mandhata Singhji, the third son, has had the Jagir of Raoti conferred upon him, and to the fourth son, Ramachandra Singhji, has been assigned the Jagir of Kaneri, while Ajatshatru Singhji, the youngest son, holds in fief Advania, Govindpura and other villages. Each son has had a splendid house erected for him. The eldest daughter, Bapu Saheba Devendra Kunwar, is married to H. H. Maharaval Sir Bijay Singhji K. C. I. E., of Dungarpur. The second daughter, Bapu Saheba Shivakunwar, has married H. H. Rajah Arjun Singhji of Narsingarh. The third daughter, Bapu Saheba Laxmi Kunwar, is betrothed to the Rao Bahadur Durjan Sal Singhji of Khilchipur.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARANA SHRI GHANSYAMSINHJI RAJ SAHEB OF DHRANGADHRA

DHRANGADHRA is a first-class State in the north of the Kathiawar Peninsula comprising a portion of the lesser Rann. It has an area of 1,167 square miles with a population of 79,142. Its annual revenue is about fifteen lakhs, including the income from the State Railway from Dhrangadhra to Wadhwan. Natural salt is found everywhere in the Rann, and there is also extensive salt-manufacture at Kuda.

The Chiefs of Dhrangadhra belong to the famous Jhala tribe, which has given rulers to many principalities in Central, Western and Upper India. They trace their descent from the well-known Harpal Deo, who established himself at Patri and became the Chief of an extensive tract of country comprising nearly 1,800 villages, known as Jhalawad after the family name. He extended his rule into Kathiawar also. The State flourished under his successor, Sodhoji, from the sixteenth century onwards. The family then went through several vicissitudes. Many of its members established themselves as rulers of small principalities, such as Wadhwan, Wankaner, Jhalrapatan, Saila, Chuda and Lakhtar. It was in the eighteenth century that Raj Raisinhji built the fort of Dhrangadhra. One of his successors, Raj Jasvantsinhji (1782-1801), made it the capital of the State. When Kathiawar became settled after the advent of the British supremacy, Dhrangadhra recovered itself from its exhaustion and was placed on the road to progress. Luckily for her, the succession of a number of enlightened rulers made its progress on modern lines an easy matter. The country became thoroughly settled, its population increased, and its industries revived.

Maharana Shri Ranmalsinhji (1843-1869) was an accomplished scholar in Sanskrit, Persian and Urdu. He was an efficient ruler and, in appreciation of his abilities, he was invested by the Supreme Government with the insignia of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, being

one of the first of the Kathiawar Chiefs to receive such a distinction. He was succeeded by his son, Maharana Shri Mansinhji, who closely followed in the footsteps of his father and did his utmost to improve the State and bring the administration to a high level of efficiency. He founded schools and opened dispensaries throughout his principality. The Prince of Wales Hospital in the capital was constructed during his time. Both the father and the son established good family connections with many ruling houses, such as those of Jaipur, Jodhpur, Ratlam, Idar and Cutch. In November 1900, he was succeeded by his grandson, Maharana Shri Ajitsinhji, who was an enlightened and able ruler. He organised the State Militia, reformed the police, and put down crime. He readily offered to place his well-discipliner troops at the disposal of the Supreme Government during the frontier troubles of 1908. In his time education became free in the State; a well-equipped High School was set up at the capital; and a library was instituted. He was also an enthusiast in developing the commercial and industrial resources of the country, and a cotton ginning factory, and a cotton-press were opened. In recognition of his enlightened rule and loyalty he was made a K. C. S. I. He died in 1911 and was succeeded by his son, the present ruler, Maharana Shri Ghansyamsinhji, who was born on the 11th June 1888. He was educated at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot, and, as a student, he attracted the special attention of the Principals, Waddington and Mayne, by his intelligence and capacity for work. He was sent to England to complete his studies when he was sixteen, where he made a special study of criminology in the company of his friend, Rana Mansinhji of Kondh. On his return to India in 1909, he was made the General of the State forces and also held the control of the State police. He was installed on the 3rd March 1911.

His Highness the Raj Saheb has introduced many salutary reforms in the State. Its finances have been placed on a sound basis; an orphanage and an asylum for the poor and destitute have been opened; and many scholarships have been founded to encourage deserving students. To commemorate the event of his installation, he has put up the Maconachie Dispensary, named after the Agent to the Governor at the time. He was invited to be present at the last Coronation Durbar, and he celebrated that auspicious event by the addition of a "Coronation Operation Hall" to the Prince of Wales Hospital, and the institution of two scholarships called "The Imperial Coronation Scholarship". His Highness is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

Under the enlightened rule of His Highness the Raj Saheb, Dhrangadhra has a prosperous career.

HIS HIGHNESS THE NAWAB MAHOMED JALALLUDINKHANJI SAHEB BAHADUR NAWAB OF RADHANPUR

RADHANPUR is a first class Mahomedan State in the Palanpur Agency of the Kathiawar Peninsula in Gujarat. It is roughly square in shape, covering an area of 1,150 square miles, and has a population of about 65,000. Its annual revenue is nearly eight lakhs of rupees. It is flat without hills. There are a few small rivers. Some of them rise in Mount Abu and lose themselves in the Little Rann; even these are dry during the hot season. Wells constitute the chief source of irrigation, the waters of most of which are brackish owing to their proximity to the Rann. In summed the heat is excessive, but the climate from December to March is cool and bracing. Fever prevails during some months. The chief products are cotton, wheat, and the common kinds of grain. The only manufacture of importance is that of saltpetre. Unlike most other principalities of Kathiawar, the State pays no *jama* to the Baroda State or to the British Government. The capital town, Radhanpur, is surrounded by a loop-holed wall, fifteen feet high, eight feet broad, and about two and a half miles in circumference with corner towers, eight bastioned gateways, outworks, and a ditch, which has now been filled up. The Nawab's palace inside the town is also surrounded by a wall. Radhanpur is a trade centre and is thirty-four miles distant from the nearest railway station. The State army consists of 35 cavalry and 163 infantry. The police force numbers 800. There are about thirty schools in the State, and medical relief is afforded in six hospitals.

The Nawabs of Radhanpur are descendants of a Pathan, named Baba (hence the family name of Babi). One Usmankhan of this family accompanied the Emperor Humayun from Afghanistan in 1556. His son, Bahadurkhan Babi, distinguished himself in the services of Jahangir and obtained the jaghir of Tharad, which he held until 1658. His fame as a ruler warrior was so great that he became a popular hero and the subject of many well-known ballads which are current

even to this day. His son, Sherkhan Babi, was associated with Prince Muradbuksh in the governorship of Gujarat, and eventually became, under Emperor Aurangzeb, the Manager of Chunval, including Patan and other districts. Jafarkhan, the son of Sherkhan, was equally successful in life and gained the appreciation of the Moghul Emperors. The title of *Safdarkhan* was conferred on him in 1693, and he was made Governor of Patan. Radhanpur, Sami, Munjpur and Terwada were also placed under his control. In repelling the attacks of the Mahrattas and in suppressing the revolt of the Thakur Durgadas in Gujarat, he was most useful to the Emperor, and he thus stood very high in his favour. His son, Khanjahan, was made the Governor of Radhanpur and Gujarat in 1729 with the title of *Juwan Mardkhan*. From this time the title of Nawab was also added to the rulers of Radhanpur. His son and successor, Kamaludinkhan, held the same titles and distinctions, and was in charge of Radhanpur, Sami, Munjpur, Tharad, Terwada and Varahi, besides holding 15,000 acres of land in the Rann of Cutch. He also held the governorship of Vadnagar, Viramgam, Kadi and Vijapur. He finally rose to be the Viceroy of Gujarat. He was the most powerful ruler of his time in those parts and was a terror to all disorderly Chiefs. In the State of Dhrangadhra in particular, he did good service in upholding the cause of an infant son of Jijibai, who was the rightful claimant to the *gadi*. He defended Ahmadabad most successfully against the Mahrattas. The rest of his life until his death in 1765 was spent in withstanding the incursions of the Mahrattas who had become very powerful by this time. His son, Gaziyudinkhan, had to give up most of his territories to them. In 1769 he helped the Rao of Cutch and saved that country from the attacks of Gulamsha, the Chief of Kalora in Sindh. Nawab Gaziyudinkhan died in 1813 and was succeeded by Nawab Sherkhan. Aided by the British he entered into a treaty with the Gaekwar, whereby his independence was recognized, and with the same help he was able to free the country from the ravages of the Sindh marauders. In 1820 the Nawab entered into an alliance with the British and undertook not to harbour any of their enemies in his territories. The Court of Directors remitted in his case the contribution which he agreed to pay for the expenses of the army. He died in 1825 and was succeeded by his three-year-old son, Jorawarkhan. During his infancy, the country was ruled by Sardar Bibi, a widow of the late Nawab. In 1838 he was invested with full powers when he was hardly sixteen years old. He was a wise and sympathetic ruler and was always friendly to the British. He took a keen interest in spreading education among his people and successfully carried out several other important administrative reforms, among which was the construction of a canal to secure good

water-supply for the town of Radhanpur. He laid out many gardens, such as the Ambavadi Bagh, Jorawar Bagh and Mehmadabad Bagh. In 1862 the usual sanad of adoption according to Mahomedan law was granted to him. The monopoly of salt-manufacture was surrendered to the British for an annual compensation of Rs. 11,048 and 350½ Bengal maunds of salt. After a rule of nearly fifty years, he was succeeded in 1875 by his son, Nawab Bismillakhanji Saheb. He followed in the footsteps of his father both in his loyalty to the British Government and in his sympathy for the people committed to his charge. He introduced many salutary reforms, improved the *morale* of the public service by employing educated men, reorganized the law-courts on British lines, and opened a hospital at Radhanpur, besides several dispensaries in other parts of the State. He went to Bombay in 1875 to meet His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, afterwards King-Emperor Edward VII, and commemorated the event by opening an English School, called "The Prince of Wales School," for the benefit of his subjects. At the Delhi Durbar of 1877, he was presented with a flag. He celebrated the Golden Jubilee of Her Majesty by the establishment of a library, known as "The Victoria Jubilee Institute." All the transit duties in the State were abolished; many Gujarati schools were opened ; the Scott Canal was constructed at considerable cost ; a Government Press was established ; a jail building was put up ; a clock-tower was erected as an ornament to the town in memory of His Excellency Lord Harris ; and a summer house was built. He died in 1895 after a successful administration of twenty-one years and was succeeded by his eldest minor son, Mahomed Sherkhanji. During his minority which lasted twelve years, the country was in charge of European administrators, and the State improved very much under their care. The young Nawab and his brother, Jalalludinkhanji, were educated at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot. Before he was placed on the *gadi* in April 1907, the Prince travelled through Europe in the company of Dr. J. Pollen, C. I. E., C. S. After his assumption of full administrative powers, he made a pilgrimage to Mecca for *haj*, and so he was known as *Haji*. He was a liberal and sympathetic ruler of great promise. He introduced free education in the State and won the love of his Hindu subjects by prohibiting the slaughter of cows. He had an attack of paralysis, and, under medical advice, he undertook a sea-voyage to Europe in 1909. Unfortunately he died on the way. He was succeeded by his younger brother, the present ruler, Nawab Saheb Mahomed Jalalludinkhanji Saheb.

As the Prince was a minor, the country once again enjoyed the benefits of British administration. His education at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot, was continued under the special care of the Principal, Mr. Mayne. The young Nawab distinguished himself in athletics and was an enthusiastic

sportsman. He also received a diploma from the Rajkumar College when he passed the final examination. After leaving College he was under the care of Mr. Monteith, I. C. S., in whose company he travelled all over India and gained practical experience in the work of administration. On the 27th November 1910, he was placed on the *gadi* amidst great festivities, and was invested with full powers.

In installing the young Chief, the Political Agent of Palanpur referred to the past history of the State, to the training and education received by the Prince, and to the temptations to which he might be exposed, and finally gave him the following very wholesome advice :—

In conclusion, I have only to add that the Government and the Political Agent as its representative will, at all times, be ready to extend to you the hand of friendship and advise you as to what is best and trust that you will reciprocate these feelings and never hesitate to confide your troubles and anxieties, should you have any, to the Political Agent.

The Prince made a suitable reply and concluded it as follows :—

Sir, I know the difficulties of my position, but I need not assure you that I shall try my best to overcome them—I hope never to forget that the welfare of my subjects should be the aim of my life, and I hope that in a few years it will be seen that I have set that aim really at heart.

The financial condition of the State has been placed on a solid footing. All the famine debts were discharged; four lakhs were invested in Government loans; many shares were purchased in the Nadiad Weaving and Spinning Company ; and in addition there was a cash balance of nearly two lakhs of rupees in the treasury at the time of the young Prince's accession.

The Nawab has already earned a name as a sympathetic ruler. The Merewether Park has been thrown open to the public ; large remissions have been made in arrears of rent ; and all internal customs-duties have been abolished. Much attention has been paid to education. The English School at the capital has been raised to the High School standard under the control of a competent Head Master. The Nawab takes a direct interest in the work of administration and regularly attends office to transact all State business. An expert rider and ready shot, His Highness is an excellent sportsman and good polo player. He won the Gujarati Cup in the Pigsticking Meet, on the 16th April 1911, at Bhandu, in which many European officers also took part. He was the first Chief of Bombay to win the cup. He is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

His Highness the Nawab Saheb Mahomed Jalalludinkhanji Saheb Bahadur is a promising young ruler, and Radhanpur has in him a capable and sensible administrator.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RANA NATHWARSINHJI BHAVSINHJI RANA OF PORBANDAR

On the western side of the Peninsula of Kathiawar forming a rougl plain sloping from the Barda hill is the Rajput State of Porbandar, whicl covers an area of 636 square miles and has a population of abou 85,000, spread over one town and ninety-six villages. Its annua income is about ten lakhs, and its Chief is entitled to a salute of elevel guns. Several rivers and rivulets flow through the tracts and contair water for many months in the year. One peculiar feature of th country is the formation of the marshy tracts along the coast called th *ghers*, on which rice, gram, *udid*, and *mug* are cultivated. Some of these *ghers* are, however, saltish, with grass reeds growing on them. The largest of these *ghers* are the Modhwara and the Gangajal. The climate is healthy, and the annual rainfall is about twenty inches. The style of house-building is peculiar. The Porbandar limestone is believed to possess strong cohesive property and is exported in large quantities to Bombay. Houses are built of it without the use of mortar, as the lime in the stones binds them together when water is poured over them. The soil is of an excellent black cotton kind. More than half the area of the State is under cultivation, and about sixty square miles are irrigated. The principal crops are jowar, wheat, bajra and cotton. Fishing is a profitable industry for the poorer classes; silk and cotton cloths are manufactured, and there is a cotton-press at the capital. The forest on the Malik hill is the only one of importance. The revenue from the forest comes to nearly 40,000 rupees per annum. A horse-breeding farm is maintained by the State. The chief harbours are Porbandar, Madhavpur, Miani and Navibandar. But the sea-borne trade has greatly declined of late, the centre of trade being now shifted to Bombay. The heavy port-dues also seem to have driven out a large portion of the trade to Verawal and Bhavnagar. There is a good Municipality at Porbandar with an annual income of more than Rs. 25,000

Medical relief is afforded in one hospital and three dispensaries. The Police force numbers about three hundred men. There is but one jail. Instruction is imparted in nearly forty schools. The State pays a tribute of Rs. 48,504 in all to the British Government, the Gaekwar of Baroda and the Nawab of Junagarh. The Bhavnagar-Gondal-Junagarh-Porbandar Railway runs through the State.

The town of Porbandar is entirely built of stone, and the old fort by which it was surrounded was demolished during the British administration. There are nine parks in the the town, besides many fine public buildings. The sea-face is provided with a light-house ninety feet high. Porbandar has been the Jethwa capital since 1785. The total value of the sea-borne trade for the whole State amounts to half a crore per annum. There is brisk trade going on with the Ports of Sindh and Baluchistan, the Persian Gulf, Arabia, Malabar Coast and the Konkan.

The Chiefs of Porbandar are Rajputs of the Jethwa clan, who seem to have settled down in Western India in very early times. They trace their descent from Hanuman, the monkey-god of the Ramayana. The family possesses an authentic history for the last six hundred years. Their advent into Kathiawar may be approximately put down to the tenth century. After the fall of Ghumli, the Jethwas had to repair first to Ranpur, and later still to Chhaya. Porbandar and Navi were acquired by the family from the Moghul rulers, and much of the lost territory of the house was also recovered from the Jadejas. Porbandar was made the capital by Sultanji in 1785. The State came under British protection during the time of the Kathiawar Settlement in 1807. H. H. the Rana Shri Vikramajit Khimaji, born in April 1819, came to the *gadi* in 1831. He was succeeded by his son, Rana Bhavsinhji, in 1868. On his death in 1908, his minor son, the present Chief, Nathwarsinhji Bhavsinhji, born on the 30th June 1901, was installed as ruler.

The late Chief did much to retrieve the lost position of Porbandar among the Kathiawar States. He proved a capable Chief, and in apreciation of his work, the Government of India restored to him the first-class powers which had been withdrawn from his predecessor.

The yong Prince has a long period of minority to pass through. During this time the State will have the advantage of being under direct British control, and the Prince himself will have a prolonged course of training and education free from the corrupting influences of an Indian palace. He will, of course, grow to be a manly, and capable ruler, well-equipped for his work, and inherit the State in a vastly improved form.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARANA SIR SHRI CHATARSINHJI GAMBHIRSINHJI, K. C. I. E., RAJAH OF RAJPIPLA

Forming a sort of water-shed between the Tapti and the Narbada is the first-class hilly State of Rajpipla in the Rewa Kantha Agency of Bombay. It covers an area of 1517½ square miles and has a population of 161,606 according to the general census of 1911. Its annual rainfall is about thirty-six inches, and the climate, excepting the few mountainous tracts, is healthy. Forests and mountains cover nearly two-thirds of the total area of the State, and the Rajpipla hills, rising in parts to nearly 3,000 feet in height, constitute a continuation of the Satpura range. The fertile and cultivated portion of the country is mostly towards the west. The forests abound in valuable trees, such as teak, blackwood, and *khair*. The Narbada, and its tributary, the Karjan, water the land. Cotton is the principal crop, and much attention is paid to its cultivation. Of the other products may be mentioned, jowar, bajra, rice, castor-oil, millet and gram. About 400 square miles of forests are reserved. The country is not wanting in mineral resources, but these cannot be worked on primitive methods and compete successfully with foreign articles. There are five cotton-ginning factories in the State.

For administrative purposes the country is divided into Parganas under officers, called Thanadars, who have considerable revenue and magisterial powers. The Chief exercises full powers, except in the case of British-born subjects. The State maintains a small army of nearly 120 men, cavalry and infantry. The Police force numbers about 257. Education is given in one high school, eighty-three primary schools, of which six are girls' schools. Medical relief is afforded in one hospital and five dispensaries. There is a veterinary hospital at the capital. The revenue of the State is about fourteen lakhs. The language spoken is Gujarati. From 1899 to 1902 the country suffered from drought and the ravages of rats, when the State had to afford relief at a cost of nine lakhs.



II, H, THE RAJAH OF RAJPIPLA

The rulers of Rajpipla belong to the Gohel tribe of Rajputs. It is said that one Chokarana, son of King Saidawat of Ujjain, left his country owing to a misunderstanding with his father and settled down at Pipla, (hence probably the name of the State) near the modern capital of Nandod. His only daughter married Mokhadji, the ruler of the Island of Premgar or Piram, in the Gulf of Cambay. They had two sons, Dungarji and Samarsinhji. Dungarji, it is said, founded the modern State of Bhavnagar, while Samarsinhji succeeded to Rajpipla, the estate of his grandfather. The rulers of Rajpipla seem to have come under the control first of the Mahomedan kings of Ahmadabad, and later under that of the Moghul Emperors of Delhi. The original feudal arrangement of supplying 1,000 foot and 300 horse was commuted by Akbar to a cash payment of Rs. 35,550. As the power of the Moghul Emperors declined, the payment of this tribute was evaded. In the eighteenth century, Damaji Gaekwar secured a half share in four of the most fertile sub-divisions of the territory, which were subsequently leased out to him for a sum of Rs. 40,000 per annum. This was in course of time raised to Rs. 78,000. The internal quarrels in the State and the rapid encroachments on it by the Mahrattas, compelled the British to interfere. About 1821 there were two claimants to the throne and, after proper enquiry, the British recognized Verisalji as the lawful owner, and he continued to rule until 1860. In 1860 Verisalji had to abdicate the *gadi* in favour of his son, Maharana Gambhirsinhji. By an agreement in 1823, the annual tribute to be paid to the Gaekwar was fixed at Rs. 65,000, Babashahi, with the understanding that a remission shall be granted in lean years. Through the major part of the last century, the State had a peaceful existence under British protection. It received the usual sanad of adoption in 1862. But owing to mal-administration and mismanagement, it was placed under a British officer in 1884, and continued to be so until 1897, when the present Chief, His Highness the Maharana Sir Shri Chhatarsinhji Gambhirsinhji, born in 1862, succeeded to the *gadi*.

His Highness the Rajah Saheb was educated at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot, under the late Mr. Chester Macnaughten. He gave a finishing touch to his education by a tour through India and gained practical administrative experience by doing the duties of sub-divisional officers before he took charge of the principality. He has more than once visited England and travelled through the Continent. At the Delhi Durbar of 1911, His Highness won the distinction of K. C. I. E. The Chief is blessed with a happy family of four sons and two daughters. He is an enthusiastic sportsman. He is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

His Highness takes a practical interest in the welfare of his subjects, and the State is doing very well under him.

HIS HIGHNESS THE THAKORE SAHEB
SIR WAGHJI RAVAJI, G. C. I. E.,
THAKORE SAHEB OF MORVI

Adjoining Cutch and as an offshoot of it is the small State of Morvi in the Kathiawar Political Agency of Bombay, with an area of 822 square miles, and a population of nearly 90,000. Its annual income is about eight lakhs, of which the sum of Rupees 61,559 is paid as tribute to the British Government, the Gaekwar of Baroda, and the Nawab of Junagarh. It is a flat country provided with a sea-board. The climate is generally good, though at times feverish, and the annual rainfall is about twenty-three inches. Cotton, sugar-cane, and the usual grains are the principal products. The State, like the other parts of the Kathiawar Peninsula, is noted for a fine breed of horses, there being nearly fourteen stallions for horse-breeding purposes. Coarse cotton cloth and salt form the chief articles of manufacture. Communications are fairly satisfactory, good roads connecting all important places. Vavania, on the Gulf of Cutch, is an important port. The State Railway, about ninety miles in length, gives a fair dividend on the outlay. The Chief owns a small sub-division in Cutch, with a port at Jangi, which was a long-standing source of quarrel between the two States, often resulting in great annoyance to traders. The Thakore Saheb, of course, exercises full powers, except in the case of British subjects. He is entitled to a salute of eleven guns. Peace is maintained by an armed police of nearly 200 men. There is a central jail at the capital with four district jails. Education is provided in fifty institutions, while for purposes of medical aid there are six hospitals.

The origin of Morvi as a separate State was occasioned by the murder of a Rao of Cutch in the latter part of the seventeenth century by one of his own brothers. The sons of the murdered Chief then ran away to Ahmadabad, and one of them, named Khengar, saved the life of the King of that place in a lion-hunt, and received as a reward the principality of Morvi with the title of Rao. From Morvi Khengar carried on a

tinuous war against Cutch for fourteen years, and finally succeeded in getting back the lost possessions of the family. He subsequently changed his capital to Bhuj, and Morvi merged into a district of Cutch. It was Khengar who first assumed the title of Rao.

Rangji, the son of the fifth ruler from Khengar, got Morvi from his father as a reward for services rendered, and became an independent Chief. But he was soon murdered by his brother, Pragji, who usurped the throne of Cutch also. Soon, however, Kaioji, the son of Rangji, avenged his father's death by defeating his uncle and taking him prisoner. An amicable settlement was then come to, by which Pragji was reinstated as the Rao of Cutch, and Kaioji got for his share the States of Morvi and Wadhwan. Thus Kaioji was the founder of the family of the present Chiefs of Morvi. Among his successors may be mentioned Aliaji, a brave soldier; Ravaji, in whose reign the capital was fortified; Jeeaji, who came very much under British influence; and the last Thakore Ravaji, who did a good deal to raise Morvi to a high position as a Protected State in Kathiawar. During the twenty-six years that he was the ruler, the State improved in many ways: the finances were placed on a sound footing; infanticide was put down; and the people were made happy and prosperous. Every department was reformed, and the administration became efficient all round. When he passed away in 1870, he was succeeded by his younger son, the present Thakore Saheb His Highness Sir Waghji Ravaji, G. C. I. E., who was at the time a minor, twelve years old, having been born in 1858.

During his minority, a Minister was at the helm of the State, and he was assisted by a British Officer. The young Prince was educated at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot, under Mr. Chester Macnaughten, the well-known Principal. He made satisfactory progress in his studies, and was much liked by both the Professors and his fellow-students. In his College days, special care was taken of him as it was feared that, owing to political intrigues at Morvi, an attempt might be made to carry him off. However, everything passed off quietly, and in 1879, when His Highness came of age, he was invested with full powers. At the time of his accession, His Highness found the State not merely solvent but in a flourishing condition. Many improvements had been effected, and the State treasury was full. So the Chief found the work of administration comparatively easy. In 1883 His Highness visited Europe, and was one of the first of the Kathiawar Princes to do so. The Thakore Saheb takes a direct interest in the administration of the Province. He was created a K. C. I. E. in 1887, and a G. C. I. E. ten years later.

The State prospers well under His Highness's enlightened administration.

HIS HIGHNESS THE NAWAB JAFAR ALI KHAN SAHEB BAHADUR NAWAB OF CAMBAY

At the head of the gulf of the same name and adjoining the British districts of Ahmadabad and Kaira, lies the flourishing little Mahomedan State of Cambay. It has an area of 350 square miles and a population of about 80,000, spread over two towns and eighty-eight villages. Its annual revenue is about six lakhs, and the Chief exercises full administrative powers. The country is beautifully flat and open, interspersed with fine groves of trees, especially in places adjoining the villages. The soil abounds in saltpetre, and the water is generally brackish. The climate is equable and pleasant, and the annual rainfall is about thirty inches. The salt-wastes near the town of Cambay are being slowly reclaimed by an embankment on the sea-shore. The chief crops are cotton, wheat, rice, indigo, tobacco, millet, and pulses. The commercial importance of the State has revived a little of late. The total value of the sea-borne trade is about eight lakhs per annum. Communications are taken care of, there being nearly fifty miles of good roads connecting the chief places, such as Golana and Kanavada with Cambay. The Cambay-Petlad Railway connects Cambay with Anand on the Bombay-Baroda and Central India Railway. In the matter of industry, Cambay seems to be comparatively better off. Among the chief manufactures may be mentioned salt, cloth, carpets, embroidery, carved carnelians, and embroidered silver wares. There are two cotton-ginning factories, and about 1500 handlooms. The State also maintains a weaving school. There is no commodious harbour, and though there is much coasting trade, ships of more than fifty tons cannot safely approach the shores. The State suffered severely during the famine of 1899-1900, the loss in cattle alone coming to 30,000 head. The relief measures cost the Durbar about a lakh of rupees. The State army consists of 236 men, and the police numbers 170, besides the village police of nearly 400 men. There is only one jail. Instruction is imparted in twenty-six State and fifteen private

schools. There are also two girls' schools. Medical relief is afforded in two hospitals and two dispensaries, and there is a veterinary hospital at the capital. Vaccination is popular.

The town of Cambay has had a chequered career in the commercial history of Gujarat. At one time it was a flourishing port, but its present importance is more industrial than commercial. The picturesque Jama Masjid was erected in 1325 with pillars taken from desecrated Jain temples. It is interesting to note that Cambay is mentioned by Marco Polo under the name of Cambaet, as one of the two great trading ports of India. The name seems to have been derived from *Khambha* (*Stambhatirth*), that is, the pool of Mahadeo under the form of the pillar god. The town is mentioned by Masaudi in 913. About the end of the tenth century, it was given as a grant to a body of Brahmins, and the prosperity of the place seems to have dated from that time. It was the chief port of the Anhilvada kingdom in the eleventh and twelfth centuries, and at the time of the Mahomedan conquest in 1298, it was considered one of the richest towns in India. In the seventh and eighth centuries, the Parsis had found shelter in the State, and when they became numerous and powerful, they were driven from it by their jealous Hindu neighbours, who remained in possession of it until the Mahomedan conquest. In the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, the town once again regained its pre-eminence as a great commercial centre. The Portuguese plundered it in 1538, and the country continued to be in disorder until 1573, when it came under the sway of Akbar. As the harbour became silted up, the trade of the city declined, and it was gradually transferred to Surat. At the beginning of the seventeenth century, the English and the Dutch established factories there. The State pays a tribute of Rs. 21,924 to the British Government. The Nawabs of Cambay are Mahomedans of the Shiah sect.

Cambay appears to have been founded as a distinct State in 1730 by Momin Khan, the last but one of the Mahomedan Governors of Gujarat, who left it in charge of his son-in-law, Nizam Khan. After Momin Khan's death, his son, Muftakhir or Momin Khan II, treacherously murdered his brother-in-law and took possession of the State. He successfully resisted the claims of the Peshwa for tribute. It was only after the treaty of Bassein in 1802, when Fateh Ali Khan was the ruler, that the State came under British control. Fateh Ali Khan was succeeded by his brother, Bandeh Ali Khan, and the latter by his nephew, Hussain Yar Khan, father of the present Nawab. His Highness the Nawab Najib-ud-Daula, Mumtaz-ul-Mulk, Momin Khan Dilawar Jung, Jafar Ali Khan Hussain Yar Khan Saheb Bahadur, born on the 26th August 1848, came to the *gadi* on the 25th April 1880. The Chief exercises full administrative powers. He is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

The State, under His Highness's care, enjoys the benefits of a peaceful and progressive administration.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH SRI BRAHADAMBA DAS SIR MARTHANDA BHAIRAVA TONDIMAN BAHADUR, G. C. I. E., RAJAH OF PUDUKKOTTAI

Surrounded by the British districts of Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Madura, and Ramnad, is the State of Pudukkottai in Southern India, the third in importance of the five Native States, in direct political relationship with the Government of Madras. It has an area of 1,178 square miles, with a population of 411,878, giving a density of 349 per square mile. This small Principality, known as the land of the Tondimans, played an important part in the disturbances of the Carnatic in the eighteenth century. The Tondimans, as the name implies, seem to have come from Tondaimandalam, the country about Madras. The State is a flat open plain interspersed with small picturesque rocks crowned with old forts and temples. It resembles in its general features those parts of the Carnatic that depend chiefly on rain-fed tanks for irrigation. A considerable area is, however, still covered with scrub jungles. Four small rivers, innumerable jungle streams, and numerous tanks constitute the chief source of irrigation. The climate is healthy, and the country is, on the whole, free from diseases. The rainfall is about thirty inches. Kambu, ragi, cholam, and varagu, are the chief dry products. Ground-nut cultivation has become very popular during the last decade, and the crop is of much economic importance. There are not many important manufactures, but Pudukkottai is generally known for its fine silk fabrics. Rough cloth and blankets are also woven. Bell-metal vessels are manufactured in some parts. Most of the articles find a market in Rangoon. Pudukkottai scents are well-known. The chief industry of one of the villages is a kind of fine glass bangles, made of a peculiar kind of sand. The Rajah is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

The State pays no tribute. The courts are on the British Indian model, the Chief Court of Pudukkottai, consisting of three Judges, being the highest one. Transportation for life and forfeiture of property are, however, subject to the confirmation of the Rajah. Capital



H. H. THE RAJAH OF PUDUKKOTTAI

punishment has practically been abolished in the State. The Chief exercises full administrative powers. The administration is carried on by a State Council. A Representative Assembly, on the lines of the Mysore Representative Assembly and the Srimulam Popular Assembly of Travancore, meets annually, to which a statement of the condition of the State during the preceding twelvemonth is generally submitted for discussion. The usual sanad of adoption was granted in 1862, and succession follows the law of primogeniture. Though the British rupee is the chief medium of exchange, a copper coin, known as the *Amman cash*, is minted by the State. There is a small force of 110 infantry and 20 cavalry under a Commandant. The Police Superintendent of Trichinopoly is also the ex-officio Superintendent of the State Police, which numbers about 275 officers and men. The central jail is in the capital town, and there are seven subsidiary jails. The finances are very satisfactory. The gross revenue is about sixteen lakhs. The famine reserve amounts to eleven lakhs, and the State savings from balances come to nearly twenty lakhs. Medical relief is afforded at one hospital in the capital and in nine rural dispensaries. There is a women and children's dispensary attached to the town hospital. Vaccination is popular. Special attention is paid to the improvement of communications, the total mileage of roads being 307, of which 214 are metalled. Large schemes of irrigation works are on hand, which, when completed, are expected to bring more land under cultivation. There is a flourishing and well-managed second grade college at the capital. Two lower secondary schools, one hundred and twenty-three primary schools, five special institutions, two training schools for teachers, a weaving school, a Tamil patasala, and a Vedasastra patasala, are also maintained by the State. Liberal grants-in-aid are given to one lower secondary school, and 165 primary schools. Elementary education is made free throughout the State, except in the capital town. The chief town is Pudukkottai (new fort), which gives its name to the State; its population is 27,000. It is exquisitely laid out, its broad streets intersecting generally at right angles. The town has been beautified with very many fine buildings, and it is supplied with good water by a system of pipes.

The tracts, known as the modern Pudukkottai State, belonged in early times either to the Chola Kings of Uraiyur or to the Pandiya Kings of Madura, or were shared by both of them. Then they passed under the Naik dynasty, who ruled them through a Polegar. The Rajahs of Ramnad, who made themselves independent of the Naik Kings of Madura, governed them in the seventeenth century. About 1664 they were recovered by Chockanadha, the Naik King of Trichinopoly. The Ramnad Chiefs again got possession of

them; and about 1680 Raghunatha Tondiman, a brother-in-law of the Rajah of Ramnad, became the Ruler of Pudukkottai. The present Tondimans trace their descent from him. In the Carnatic wars of the eighteenth century, the Tondimans were the staunch allies of the British, often assisting the Company's forces with stores and supplies. In the risings of the Polegars of Madura and Tinnevelly again, the Tondiman was of much service to the English. It was one of the Tondimans that succeeded in capturing the rebellious Polegar of Panjalamkurichi and handing him over to the British. The fort and district of Kilanelli were granted to the Tondiman at his own request in 1806 by the Court of Directors, on the recommendation of the Company's officers, who generously recognised his services and complimented him on his fidelity. The political charge of the State was under the Resident of Tanjore for a long time. But the Residency was abolished in 1841, when Pudukkottai was placed under the Collector of Madura. The Agency was again transferred to the Collector of Tanjore in 1865, who retained it till 1874, when the Collector of Trichinopoly became the ex-officio Political Agent of Pudukottai. This arrangement still continues.

His Highness the present Rajah, Sri Brahadamba Das Sir Marthanda Bhairava Tondiman Bahadur, G. C. I. E., born on the 26th November 1875, was adopted by his maternal grandfather, the late Tondiman, and succeeded to the *gadi* in April 1886. During his minority, the State was ably administered by the Dewan-Regent, Sir A. Seshayya Sastriar, K. C. S. I., the maker of modern Pudukkottai. The State owes to this statesman a debt of gratitude which it cannot easily repay. The education of the young Prince was entrusted to an English tutor, under whose guidance His Highness made rapid progress in his studies. On the 27th November 1894, he was invested with full powers by H. E. Lord Wenlock, then Governor of Madras, who paid the following handsome compliment to the State for its past services :—

Your Highness is to-day entering upon a heavy responsibility; to your hands are being entrusted the prosperity of a fine estate capable of large development and the well-being and happiness of nearly four hundred thousand people. Your forefathers assisted in the laying of the foundation of the British Empire in India by supporting our arms in the struggle for the supremacy with the French, a very important episode of which was the siege of Trichinopoly in 1758; next, by aiding them in making head against the famous invader, Hyder Ali Khan, and, lastly, when alien enemies had ceased to oppose us by affording, after the cession of the Carnatic, material help in suppressing outbreaks of rebellious usurpers in what now forms the Madura District. Those days of warfare and bloodshed are now, so far as Southern India is concerned, happily at an end with no prospect of return, but you can still

ollow in more peaceful paths the example of your ancestors of more than a century ago and support the British rule by a wise and just Government of the State to the administration of which you this day succeed.

In reply to it, His Highness observed :—

Appreciating the value of the good advice Your Excellency has given me, I recognize the solemn nature of the trust now conferred on me; and relying on the help and advice of the Political Agent and my Dewan, I shall use my whole endeavour in striving to assure to my people a just and progressive administration. Striving to rule without fear or favour, I shall seek to be honourable and upright in all my actions, with the Almighty's help and guidance in making the destinies of my people happy and prosperous. I have to thank the Dewan, Mr. Seshia Sastriar, for the improvements he has made in the State during the past sixteen years of his administration. I look back with gratitude on the direct and personal interest taken by Your Excellency and Your Excellency's predecessors in my own bringing-up and on the great privilege conferred on me in appointing Mr. F.Crossley as my tutor and companion. He has devoted all his time and energies in preparing me to fill worthily the position to which I am this day called. But for his ready help and conscientious work I should not be what I am. My brother and I owe him many thanks for all his goodness and fatherly care.

The Rajah has visited England a number of times, and has also travelled widely on the continent. His Highness is a great believer in education as an important factor in the progress of any community, and he is said to have many reforms in contemplation.

Soon after his return from the Delhi Durbar of 1911, His Highness's thirty-seventh birthday was celebrated at Pudukkottai with great eclat. On that occasion His Highness announced the following boons to his people in commemoration of the auspicious event of the Coronation of Their Imperial Majesties :—

(1) All officers and all pensioners getting Rs. 10 and less a month will be given a present of Rs. 2 on February 1st, 1912; (2) all officers above Rs. 10 and below Rs. 25 per month, permanently employed in the State, will be granted a bonus of Rs. 8 on February 1st, 1912; (3) the tax imposed on looms owned by the weavers in the State will be permanently abolished; (4) the village account, known as *Kanakkuvari*, will be remitted for one fasli, and this will amount to about Rs. 25,000 for the whole State; (5) primary education, already free in many parts, will be made free throughout the State except in the capital town.

On the last new year's day, His Highness was the recipient of the well-merited honour of G. C. I. E. This has given immense satisfaction to his subjects, and there were rejoicings all over the State. Replying to the loyal address of congratulation, presented on the 24th January 1913,

by the citizens of Pudukkottai, His Highness the Rajah said, among other things:—

As I have been long away from here, an absence unavoidably caused by my illness, I have not had the opportunity of addressing you often as I should like to have done. It is very gratifying to me to hear from you that the State is considered to be an enlightened and benignant one. Gentlemen, to have steady progress, we must keep up with the other enlightened States, as time goes on, in the march of their civilization, and this means that one must bring in new reforms from time to time. I fully realize the natural human tendency not to relish any innovation in an old state of affairs, but still we cannot call ourselves enlightened if we do not introduce such reforms as are necessary and stand to reason. When the time comes, you should all come forward as loyal and enlightened citizens to help us in carrying out such reforms. It is needless for me to assure you that your welfare and interests are of the first importance to me, and I can vouch for the same in the present State Council, which we are fortunate to have. No human being can be perfect, and one is therefore apt to make mistakes. You can always represent your grievances if you have any, and my Durbar will be happy to consider your views sympathetically, whenever possible. I mention these things, for in order to keep up a high standard of Government we cannot but depend at all times on your loyal and hearty co operation.

The Silver Jubilee of His Highness's rule was celebrated on the 21st February 1913, when an address was read by the Dewan and presented to the Rajah in a fine silver casket. We take the following from the address :—

The net-work of fine roads which has secured free and more rapid communication between the capital and the interior, and free and easy access to the outlying British parts, and which has given an impetus and a buoyancy to the ever-increasing trade in the State ; the excellent edifices, well-furnished and accommodating every department of the State according to modern requirements ; the introduction of necessary reforms in all departments to cope with the increasing work and responsibility ; the supply of free and wholesome drinking water through pipes in the town ; the beautiful hospital with its branches all over the State in every Taluq and Firka, equipped with modern scientific appliances and manned by a capable body of men to combat the ills flesh is heir to ; the sanitary reforms introduced throughout the State and the constant attention paid to them ; the maintenance in good repair of most of the irrigation tanks, the importance of which cannot be too highly appreciated, considering the purely rain-fed nature of the country ; the institution of union and co-operative banks to help the poor ryots in times of trouble and to prevent them from falling into the clutches of the rapacious money-lenders ; the efforts that are being made by the establishment of State Farms and by the fostering of an Agricultural Association to educate the ryots in scientific methods of cultivation so as to enable them to get from mother-earth

the maximum of yield with the minimum of labour; the Revenue Settlement
o remit permanently the karnam cess throughout the State; to grant one l, and
of rupees for a satisfactory drainage in the town to be spent as funds become e and
lable; to extent the elective franchise in the Representative Assembly to ıstice
nty-five instead of nineteen members as at present; to throw open to election llege
seat in every Union Panchayat; to construct a lying in-ward and labour room ns of
he Women and Children's Hospital to be shortly opened; to throw open four them
s in the Municipal Council to election instead of two as at present; to make a rage.
cial grant of Rs. 5,000 for extension of education to girls; and a special grant orms
Rs. 10,000 for improvement of sanitation in villages where lately there has ance
n so much of ravages by epidemics.

In commemoration of the unique event, His Highness granted the following boons :

(*a*) A remission of taxation—(1) remission of the village karnam cess commonly known as the *kannakku vari* amounting to Rs. 25,000 for a period of 3 years ; (2) the remission of the house-tax, generally called *mohturpha*, amounting to Rs. 5,000 for a period of 3 years ; and (3) a remission, permanently, of the tax levied on bangle makers and dhobies' earth. (*b*) Local self-government by the association of elected representatives in a Legislative Advisory Council to be newly constituted, and the grant of the privilege of the election of two members of the Municipal Council as vacancies occur. (*c*) With regard to education, the opening of an agricultural school in the town and the grant of two continuation agricultural scholarships in the College at Coimbatore, and the special grant of an annual sum of Rs. 5,000 for 3 years for the construction of buildings for elementary schools in rural parts. (*d*) The boons to State servants are (1) the grant of special grain compensation allowances to permanent and temporary servants of the State drawing Rs. 10 and less for four additional months ; (2) the grant of special local allowances to servants of the State drawing a salary of Rs. 30 and less when employed in localities where prices are specially high, *i.e.*, in the neighbourhood of Nattukkottai Chetty villages; (3) the grant of Rs. 1,000 to the Town Hall in the capital to enable the Committee to finish the building; and (4) the grant of Rs. 10,000 for the formation of Silver Jubilee Agricultural Seed Banks.

His Highness and his brothers are all well-educated. One of them, Vijaya Raghunatha Durai Rajah, B.A., is the Dewan and Member of the State Council, and another Bhairava Rama Chandra Durai Rajah is the Military Secretary and Household Officer, while a third one Dakshinamurthi Durai Rajah, B.A., B.L., practises as a High Court Vakil in Madura. The fourth, Krishnaswami Durai Rajah, B.A., is the Military Commandant, District Registrar, and Superintendent of Stamps. The fifth is Sankara Narayana Durai Rajah.

Under the enlightened administration of His Highness the Rajah, the State is making steady progress.

In August 1915, H. H. the Rajah of Pudukkottai married Miss Molly Fink in Australia and returned with her to Pudukkottai on the 22nd November 1915, when they were accorded a hearty reception by the subjects of the State. As a souvenir of the ...

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH RANJITSINHJI VIBHAJI BAHADUR JAM SAHEB OF NAWANAGAR

The State of Nawanagar, made so famous all over the world by its present Jam Saheb, His Highness the Maharajah Ranjitsinhji, the cricketeer—" the Prince of a little State, but the King of a great game"—covers an area of 3,791 square miles in the Kathiawar Peninsula of the Bombay Presidency. It has a population of about 400,000, and an annual revenue of nearly thirty lakhs. The State, which is favourably situated with a sea-board contributing to its commercial progress, holds a very important place among the Rajput principalities of Kathiawar. The State of Rajkot, it may be noted, is an offshoot of Nawanagar. The major portion of the country is generally flat, except the parts occupied by the Barda hills, the highest peak of which is Mount Venu, about 2,000 feet above the sea-level. The Bhadar, the Vartu, the Aji, and the Und, are the principal rivers. The climate along the Gulf of Cutch is particularly good, the annual rainfall ranging from twenty to thirty inches. It is said that in old times the Nawanagar forests were infested with lions, but after 1860 when canon had to be fired in pursuing the rebel Vaghers, the lions ran away to the Gir forest. Wells, artificial lakes, and aqueducts from rivers, constitute the chief sources of irrigation. Cotton, jowar, wheat, and gram, are the important products. There is some pearl fishery on the southern shore of the Gulf of Cutch. The country cannot be said to be rich in minerals. Nawanagar is noted for its dyed cloths, the dyes being much admired for their excellence and fastness. To facilitate trade, the State maintains nearly three hundred vessels with four light-houses. From Rajkot there is a line of rail about fifty-five miles in length, owned by the Durbar. Nawanagar pays a tribute of Rs. 1,20,093 rupees to the British Government, the Gaekwar of Baroda, and the Nawab of Junagarh. The army consists of 145 Imperial Service Lancers, and a subordinate force of 211 men, 26 of whom are mounted,

There is a police force of 876, and there are eight jails. Adequate arrangements have been made for purposes of medical aid and public instruction.

The ruling family of Nawanagar belongs to the famous Jadeja clan, from which the Chiefs of Cutch also trace their descent. Nawanagar was founded in 1540 by Jam Rawal displacing the earlier family of Jethwas. Nothing of importance seems to have occurred in the State until the end of the eighteenth century. Its favourable position should, of course, have invested it with some commercial importance in the Kathiawar Peninsula. In 1788 the famous Port of Nawanagar was built by Jam Jasaji. In 1807 the State came under British protection, and the usual agreement was entered into to pay the tribute regularly, to keep order in the territory, and not to molest their neighbours. The cruel practice of female infanticide which was once prevalent in those parts, was put down at the instance of the British Government. In 1814 Jam Jasaji died, and Ranmalji was adopted. The latter passed away in 1852, and the rulership fell to the late Jam, His Highness Sir Shri Veebhaji Ranmalji, K.C.S.I. The Prince was recognised as a powerful Chief in the Kathiawar Peninsula. He was a keen sportsman and very efficient ruler. He paid particular attention to public works and education. In his days the administration of the State improved all round, and it was brought up to the modern standards of efficiency. He took part in the reception accorded to H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh at Bombay in 1872, and he was also one of those Chiefs of Western India who received the Prince of Wales, the late King-Emperor Edward VII, in 1875, at Bombay. He was present at the Delhi Durbar of 1877, when he had, as a personal distinction, an increase of four guns in his salute. The following year he was made a K. C. S. I.

His Highness the present Jam Saheb of Nawanagar, Maharajah Ranjitsinhji, was born on the 10th September 1872, at Sarodar, in Kathiawar. He had a high class education both at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot, and at the Trinity College, Cambridge. He is now forty years of age, and is said to have retired from the field of cricket. His first appearance for the Sussex county cricket club was in 1895, and from that year to 1902 he was the head of Sussex averages. He was the champion batsman for all England in 1896—1900, scoring 2,780 runs with an average of 59·91. Prince Ranjitsinhji went with Stoddart's All-England Eleven to Australia in 1897-98. In his *Jubilee Book of Cricket* we have a most entertaining account of his achievements as a cricketeer which have made him the idol of the world of sports.

He was taken in adoption by his uncle, the late Jam Saheb, and he succeeded to the *gadi* on the 11th March 1907. The Honourable Mr. Fitzgerald, Agent to the Governor-General, installed Prince Ranjitsinhji, who was then presented with a sword and shield by His Highness the Rao

of Cutch. His Highness the Jam Saheb, in the course of his reply to Mr. Fitzgerald's speech on the memorable occasion, said :—

I am aware that these expressions and feelings add immensely to my responsibilities, and I feel that a deep obligation lies upon me not to disappoint my friends of their estimate in my case. While it will be vain to predict that my new career will add to my reputation, I can only say that I shall always endeavour to play the game in such a manner as not to lose whatever credit I have earned in another field. I only hope I shall be able to achieve that. In the second place, I must thank all those ladies and gentlemen who have taken the trouble to come here at such short notice on this memorable occasion. To you, Mr. Fitzgerald, I can hardly express how deeply thankful I feel. I rely upon the good-will of my people, the loyalty of my officials, and the kind advice and assistance of the British Government and its officers. I must admit that, with all my experience in my past life, I am now entering upon a page in my history which is new to me. I know it will be trying. I have to guard against various pitfalls into which a Chief is likely to be led by interested persons. I cannot afford to be idle, luxurious or indifferent, as that would involve injury not only to my personal interests, but to the interests of the large population committed to my care. I am very thankful for the various suggestions you have made as to the different ways in which I can improve my State and its administration. This advice and these suggestions are so rich that I must keep them always before me and endeavour to act up to them. I know my State and people have suffered much from the scourges mentioned by you, and can only hope that we are now entering upon a better cycle of years. I hope to abide by the traditions of this State and to maintain an unswerving loyalty to the British throne. In this connection I could not have a better man to set an example, which I shall always look to act up to, than my esteemed friend, the famous Major-General Maharajah Sir Pratap Singh of Idar.

Referring to Prince Ranjitsinhji's elevation to the Jamnagar *gadi*, the *London Times* observed :—

The news that the Government of India have confirmed the title on Prince Ranjitsinhji as hereditary Chief of Nawanagar will be read with the liveliest interest by tens of thousands of Englishmen, who know and care little about high politics, English or Indian. Prince Ranjitsinhji has won the admiration and almost the affection, not only of all who play or have played cricket, but of the much larger multitude who, for a dozen different reasons, look on at cricket, and who talk cricket and read cricket when they cannot look on. The new Ruler enters upon his inheritance which is unique in the annals of Indian Princes. He has been brought into constant and intimate contact with all classes of the people of England to a degree which can but rarely fall to any man who is not of our blood. It will be of deep interest to note what lessons he has learnt from them and about them. He has learnt to "play the game." We trust and believe that he will always play it in the sphere to which he has been called.

His Highness may be expected to settle down permanently in his State hereafter, and give his undivided attention to it and earn for himself as great a reputation as a Ruler as he has done as a Sportsman. On the moral side, the services already rendered by the Jam Saheb to India are very great; for he is the supreme exponent of the Englishman's game. As a writer in the *Daily News* has put it, "he has brought the East into the heart of the happy holiday crowds of England, and has made them think of it as something human and kindly. It is his supreme service that through his genius for the English game, he has familiarized the English people with the idea of the Indian as a man of like affections with themselves and with capacities beyond theirs, in directions supposed to be peculiarly their own. In a word, he is the first Indian who has touched the imagination of the English people. He has released trains of thought in the common mind that cannot fail to influence beneficially, the popular feeling in regard to the greatest task that belongs to the British people as an imperial nation. He is as engaging with his tongue as with his bat, a lively raconteur and a man of thoroughly democratic sympathies and serious purposes. It was he who first set himself to break down the practice of professionals and amateurs lunching separately, providing thus a curious commentary on our vague conceptions about caste. The castes of India have at least some basis in great traditions and fundamental ideas. The caste system of our own cricket field as of our own society has only a basis in riches. You cannot be a Runjeet-Singh—to give the Jam Sahib the true rendering of his much-abused name—unless you have the blood of the Lion race in your veins; but you may join the old nobility of England if you have made a brilliant speculation in rubber or have exploited the oils of Baku or the gold of the Transvaal. Perhaps, after all, the Jam Sahib has more right to correct the caste traditions of our land than we have to deplore the caste system of his own." In the game of cricket it is said that he combines an oriental calm with an oriental swiftness—the stillness of the panther with the suddenness of its spring, and that he has earned his name as a cricketeer with extraordinary little display and by a mastery of that rare art of the omission of unessentials, and the concentration of the one thing that needs to be done. How far these great moral qualities will help the Jam Saheb in the good work that lies before him is a matter for the future to judge. His Highness enjoys a salute of eleven guns.

If the battle of Waterloo was won in the play-fields of Eton, let us hope that the prosperity of Nawanagar has already been achieved in the several cricket-fields where the Jam Saheb has earned his world-wide reputation.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJ RANA
SIR BHAWANI SINGH BAHADUR, K. C. S. I.,
RAJ RANA OF JHALAWAR

Jhalawar is a flourishing small Protected State in the south-east of Rajputana with an area of 810 square miles and a population of 96,215, spread over 410 towns and villages. The southern part of the State is hilly and fairly wooded with a number of small streams, while the rest forms a rich undulating plain. The Chambal and the Kali Sindh are the chief rivers. The climate is generally healthy, and the average rainfall is thirty-seven inches. The annual revenue of the State is nearly five lakhs. The Hindus number about 87 per cent. of the population, mostly of the Vaishnavite sect, and the Mahomedans and the Jains make up the rest. Malwi and Haraoti are the chief dialects spoken. Wells constitute an important source of irrigation. The principal crops are jowar, maize, cotton, gram and wheat. The country is noted for a fine breed of cattle, but the ponies for which it was once famous have become very few owing to excessive mortality among them during the famine of 1899—1900. Cattle fairs are held annually at Jhalrapatan, the capital town. Excellent sandstone is got from the hills for building purposes. Cotton fabrics, brass utensils, knives and blades are the only manufactures of any importance. The exports are opium, oil-seeds and cotton, while food grains, salt, sugar, cloth and metals are the principal imports. The only serious famine from which the State suffered was that of 1899-1900, when relief measures were undertaken on a liberal scale at a cost of nearly two lakhs of rupees. The Raj Rana is assisted by a Dewan in the administration of the State. The country is divided into five tahsils, each under a Tahsildar assisted by a Naib-Tahsildar. Tahsildars exercise both civil and criminal powers. They dispose of suits to the value of Rs. 100, and can sentence up to one month's imprisonment, and levy a fine of Rs. 30. The Dewani Adalat hears suits up to five thousand rupees, and the Faujdari Adalat can sentence up to two years, and fine not exceeding Rs. 300. Civil and criminal administration is on the lines of British courts, and

capital sentences have to be confirmed by the *Mahakma Khas*, the final appellate authority in the State, presided over by the Raj Rana. The army consists of 600 officers and men, 300 of whom also do police work. The strength of the local police is 400, besides 170 chaukidars, who enjoy lands rent-free for their services. There are ten educational institutions, the most important of them being the High School at the capital. Education is imparted in English, Urdu, Hindi and Sanskrit. Medical relief is afforded in five hospitals and dispensaries. Jhalrapatan and Chhaoni are the only two municipalities. There is a small forest about eight square miles in extent, which is looked after by a department called Dungar Bagar. The Chief is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

The State takes its name after the famous Jhala clan of Rajputs, to which the rulers belong. Jhalawar, as a separate principality, is, however, of recent origin. In the days of Maharao Bhim Singh of Kotah, Madho Singh, the son of Bhao Singh, the founder of the Jhalawar family, went from Halwad in Kathiawar, to Rajputana and, by sheer force of his talents, rose to be the Faujdar or Commander of the Kotah troops, and secured Nanta in jaghir. The office and the jaghir were continued to his descendants, and Zalim Singh, his great-grandson, scarcely eighteen years of age, became the Commander in 1758. Three years later he gained a great victory over the Jaipur army at Bhatwara. Soon after this, owing to a misunderstanding with the Maharao of Kotah, he repaired to Udaipur, and, by his valuable services, gained from the Maharana the title of Raj Rana. Subsequently he was reconciled to the Maharao of Kotah ; and after the death of the latter in 1771, Zalim Singh was made the guardian and protector of the young Maharao, Umed Singh. Zalim Singh continued very powerful for nearly half a century. In 1817 mainly through his mediation, Kotah was brought under British protection, and in the next year, by a supplementary treaty, its entire administration was vested in him, and in his heirs and successors. But this system was soon found unworkable, and the British Government took out seventeen districts from Kotah and assigned them to Madan Singh, the grandson of Zalim. It is this principality that is now known as Jhalawar. It was taken under British protection in 1838. The Chief enjoyed the distinction of Maharaj Rana, and a salute of fifteen guns was also conferred on him. At the time of the Mutiny, Prithvi Singh, son of Madan Singh, did good and loyal service. After him came his adopted son, Zalim Singh II, a minor, ten years old, and he was invested with full powers in 1884. But owing to mal-administration he was deposed in 1896. As he had no sons, the Government of India selected for the *gadi* Kunwar Bhawani Singh, son of Thakur Chhatarsal of Fatehpur, a descendant of Madho Singh, the first Jhala Faujdar of Kotah.

The present Ruler, His Highness the Raj Rana Sir Bhawani Singh,

K. C. S. I., was born on the 4th September 1874. He was educated at the Mayo College, Ajmer, where he remained from 1881 to 1891. At College he distinguished himself as an enthusiastic sportsman, especially in the game of cricket, in which he was considered one of the best bowlers. The Raj Rana was given full powers of Government on the 6th February 1899 by Sir Arthur Martindale, then Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana.

At the outset of his career, His Highness had to face the terrible famine of 1899-1900, when he took prompt and effective measures to relieve the famine-stricken by opening relief works and poor-houses, and by importing food grains in large quantities and selling them at much lower than the market rates. Arrears of rent amounting to nearly four lakhs were remitted to the ryots. In April 1904, His Highness went to Europe to improve his health and returned to his State in November of that year. The Raj Rana was specially fortunate in having Major Benn as his companion during this tour, and he saw everything that was worth seeing both in England and on the continent. His late Imperial Majesty Edward VII not only received him in audience at the Buckingham Palace, but treated him with the kindest consideration during his stay, when, as it happened, they had to meet often at Marienbad. This accounts for the special attachment and devotion that the Raj Rana always had for the person of the late sovereign, and for his staunch loyalty to the ruling house. After his return to the country with his experience thus widened, he has been trying to improve the administration in all possible ways. Among the many reforms carried out by His Highness may be mentioned (1) the adoption of the imperial postal unity ; (2) the introduction of the British currency and weights ; (3) the abolition of a number of petty cesses ; and (4) the substitution of the Nagri script in the State courts and offices.

His Highness is a great patron of learning. He takes a keen interest in education, and has made it free in the State. Besides the High School at Jhalrapatan, there are many primary schools, where good education is given to the children of the poor. Much attention is paid to female education. Recently special arrangements were made for the education of Chhaoni girls, and Jhalawar can boast of the largest number of educated women in India. In the case of girls' schools, books and other school requisites are given gratis. Every effort is made to improve the condition and status of teachers, and arrangements are in progress for opening many new schools. His Highness is also a very great lover of books, his private library being considered one of the very best in all Rajputana, both for the choice of books and the variety of subjects represented. The

Raj Rana is a member of the following scientific Institutions and Societies :—

(1) The Royal Asiatic Society, (2) The Royal Astronomical Society, (3 The Royal Botanic Society, (4) The Royal Geographical Society, (5) The Royal Society of Arts, (6) Society Astronomique de France, (7) The Royal Institution of Great Britain, (8) Vice-President of the Astronomical Society of India, (9) The International Arbitration and Peace Association, and (10) The National Indian Association.

He serves on the committees of the Mayo College, Ajmer; Daly College, Indore; and the Rajputana Museum. At Jhalawar there is a high class Literary Association, the Rajendra Literary Institute, named after the Maharaj Kumar, patronized by His Highness, in the debates of which Sardars and officials take part and discuss literary, social and other questions.

An Agri-Horticultural Exhibition is held every year in February or March, and prizes are awarded in open competition to those that exhibit the very best varieties of vegetables, flowers, fruits, etc.

The Raj Rana is easily accessible to his people. To attract good men into the State service and to improve its morale, he has raised the scale of salaries all round. In May 1908, His Highness was made a K. C. S. I.

His Highness went to England in 1912 when he had the honour of doing homage more than once to His Majesty the King-Emperor George V.

Soon after his return from the second trip to England, in order to improve the pecuniary status of his subjects, His Highness was pleased to grant a big remission of six lakhs of rupees, quite unprecedented in the annals of Jhalawar.

When he was in England, he was made a member of the Royal Geographical Society and also of the Poetry Society. Contact with English public life has made him a believer in representative institutions; and it is said he seriously contemplates giving soon a large share to his people in the administration of the State. At a dinner party in London got up in his honour, His Highness denounced the sombre creed of anarchism and assured the audience that the Government of India would command the respect and obedience of the Indian people as long as they were assured of peace, good laws, and equal opportunity to all.

The diary kept by the Raj Rana on the occasion of his visit to Europe in 1904 has been published by Messrs. Longmans, under the title *Travel Pictures*. The book contains many interesting comments on public affairs and European customs from the standpoint of a Rajput Prince. It also gives a vivid account of the impressions of the Raj Rana regarding the places and countries visited by him, including Spain, Portugal, France, Scotland, Ireland, Holland, Denmark, Marienbad, Vienna, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Greece, and Egypt. His Majesty the King-Emperor has permitted its dedication to him.

Jhalawar is thus one of the most advanced States in Rajputana, and is blessed with a talented and enlightened Chief.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH
SIR RAWAL SHRI BHAVSINGHJI TAKHATSINGHJI, K. C. S. I.,
MAHARAJAH OF BHAVNAGAR

Bhavnagar is a first-class tributary State in the Kathiawar Agency of Bombay. It covers an area of 2,860 square miles and has a population of 441, 367, spread over eleven towns and 655 villages, giving an average density of 144 persons per square mile. The revenue of the State is nearly half a crore. The commercial resources of the country are very great as it has a good sea-board with safe harbours, and to this fact may perhaps be ascribed the early connection between the Bombay Government and the Bhavnagar Durbar as much as to the personality and importance of the rulers. The country does not present a uniform aspect; for while nearly half the total area consists of black cotton soil, there are also extensive sandy or salt flats, and parts are covered with hills and mountains, such as those of Sihor, Khokra, Und, Babriadhar, and sections of the Gir hills. These hills seem to be the result of volcanic eruptions, and so it may be presumed that the mineral resources of the State are rich and await prospecting. Excellent laterite is found for building purposes. Besides the wells so common in the Kathiawar Peninsula, the chief sources of irrigation are the rivers of Shetrunji, Bagad and Malan. The fine artificial lake, five miles in circumference, near the capital, not only presents a picturesque appearance but provides the town with good potable water. The climate on the sea-coast is generally healthy, but it is hot and dry inland. The annual rainfall is about twenty-five inches. The chief product of the country is cotton, besides the usual grains. Salt is manufactured, as well as obtained in a natural state. The other important manufactures are oil, copper and brass vessels, and cloth. There are about eleven cotton-presses, nine ginning factories, and one spinning and weaving mill in the State. Besides ten stallions for horse-breeding, there is also an Italian donkey stallion for mule-breeding. The forests of Sihor are the only ones of importance. There are two experimental plantations at Sihor and Mahduva, containing about 45,000 varieties of trees.

The State owns a large share in the Bhavnagar-Gondal Railway, nearly 120 miles of its total length lying within its confines. The Railway is indeed a great asset, having already paid out more than eleven lakhs in excess of the capital outlay. The State pays a tribute of a lakh and a half to the British Government, the Gackwar of Baroda, and the Nawab of Junagarh. The Chief, of course, exercises full ruling powers. He is entitled to a salute of eleven guns. Among the progressive measures adopted recently may be mentioned the establishment of a Savings Bank in 1902, in which large sums have already been deposited. Peace is maintained by a police force numbering about 600, of whom nearly 50 are mounted. The State army consists of a regiment of Imperial Service Lancers, 256 strong, 51 cavalry and 285 infantry. For purposes of medical aid there are two hospitals and about twenty dispensaries.

The rulers of Bhavnagar belong to the famous Gohel clan of Rajputs who claim descent from the lunar race of kings, and from Shalivahan of the Shaka Era. After distinguishing themselves in several military exploits in the north of India, they seem to have finally settled down in Kathiawar, about the middle of the thirteenth century; hence the name *Gohelwad* to the eastern part of Kathiawar. Evidences are not wanting to show that they were in Kathiawar even earlier, so far back as the beginning of the ninth century. It is said that the family title of Rawal was earned for military service rendered at the famous siege of Chitor in A D. 1303. According to current traditions, Sajakji, the progenitor of the present ruling house, is believed to have established himself in those tracts in A.D. 1260. He had three sons, Ranoji, Saranji, and Shahji, whose descendants are said to have founded respectively the principalities of Bhavnagar, Lathi and Palitana. The Chief of Vala also belongs to this family. The ancient capital of the State was Sihor, but in the conflict with the Mahrattas, at the beginning of the eighteenth century, Bhavsinghji, the ruler, removed it to Bhavnagar in 1723, having found the former capital rather insecure. It was also he that granted a fourth share of the customs of the Bhavnagar Port to the Sidi of Surat, to protect him from his enemy, the Nawab of Cambay. From the Sidi of Surat the British obtained this right in 1759.

Bhavsinghji was succeeded in 1764 by Akherajji, who continued to rule the country until 1772. He was an able ruler and renowned warrior. He helped the Mahrattas against the Moghuls and took part with the British in reducing the pirate strongholds of Talaja and Mahuva. It was this Chief that gave shelter to Raghunath Rao Peshwa during the first Mahratta war. The British offered the fort of Talaja to Akherajji, but he declined it. His son, Wakhatsinghji, however, seized the fort, and in 1774 the British allowed him to retain it on payment of

Rs. 75,000. He was an intrepid soldier, in whose time Bhavnagar dominions received large additions. He cultivated firm friendship with the British traders at Surat.

At the time of the first Mahratta war, the Gaekwar and the Peshwa jointly exercised suzerainty over Bhavnagar. By the treaty of Bassein, the Peshwa's share was ceded to the British ; and by an arrangement with the Gaekwar in 1807, the whole State came under British protection. In 1840 the mint at Bhavnagar was abolished for a compensation of Rs. 2,800 a year, and for a further sum of Rs. 4,000, the Bhavnagar Durbar resigned all rights to the land and sea customs of Gogha. The estates of Bhavnagar lying within the Dhandhuka and Gogha districts were, however, brought under the control of the British in 1816, and after repeated complaints, they have been finally placed under the supervision of the Agent to the Governor in Kathiawar, from 1866. Wakhatsinghji died in 1816, and his successor, Vajesinghji, ruled over the State for thirty-six years. His grandson, Akherajji III, succeeded him. On the latter dying without issue in 1854, his brother, Jaswantsinghji, was placed on the *gadi*.

He was an able and enlightened Chief, and rendered much help to the English during the trying days of the Mutiny. He was made a K. C. S. I. in 1866, having been the first Kathiawar Chief to receive the distinction. Various improvements were effected in the administration of the State during his time. Many fine buildings were put up for hospitals, schools and dispensaries. Roads were laid out on a large scale; arrangements were made for the better management of towns by the establishment of municipalities ; and a State Gazette was instituted. He died in 1871, and was succeeded by his son, Takhatsinghji, born in 1858.

During the minority of the Chief, the State was administered jointly by a British Officer and the Dewan. The young Prince was educated at the Keatinge Rajkumar College, Rajkot, where he made himself loved and respected by all. After a stay of three years, he returned to his State, and his training was continued under the care of Colonel Nutt. He gained practical experience in the work of administration by attending to all the official duties of the Minister for nearly a year. He was invested with full powers in 1878. His Highness was made a K. C. S. I. in 1881, and a G. C. S. I. in 1886. The personal distinction of Maharajah was conferred on him in 1891. In 1890 His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor honored the State with a visit and laid the foundation stone of the Port, to which His Royal Highness was also graciously pleased to lend his name. The Maharajah died in 1896, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Bhavsinghji Takhatsingji, the present popular Chief.

His Highness the late Takhatsinghji was a very capable ruler, and the first act of his administration was the putting up of a beautiful bridge over

the river Aji, near Rajkot, at a cost of nearly a lakh and a half. It was during his reign that the State Railway was laid, that a sum of more than half a crore was spent on public buildings, that a fine palace adorned the capital, that court-houses and schools were built, that a hospital was founded and provided with a grand and commodious building, and that two large fruit and vegetable markets were opened. The Samaldas Arts College was set up in memory of one of the Dewans, Mr. Samaldas Parmanandas. His Highness further contributed over a lakh of rupees for a new wing to the Rajkumar College. Parks and public gardens were laid out, and the fine and beautiful lake near the city was also the work of the Maharajah. His charity and munificence extended beyond the limits of his State. He contributed a sum of over £ 10,000 to the Northbrook Club and the Imperial Institute in London. He was an ardent social reformer and a great believer in female education. A Council of Administration was established in 1887, and the law courts were thoroughly reformed under the guidance of Sir M. M. Bhownaggree, the late Indian Member of the House of Commons.

The present Ruler, His Highness the Maharajah Sir Rawal Shri Bhavsinghji Takhatsinghji, K. C. S. I., born on the 26th April 1875, succeeded to the *gadi* in 1896, and since then he has been closely treading in the footsteps of his father. He was also educated at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot; and he had an excellent training later on along with the Maharajah of Kolhapur and the Chief of Kagal, under Mr. S. M. Fraser, C.S.I., C.I.E., at present British Resident in Kashmir. He has travelled extensively. In 1888 he married a daughter of the Maharawal of Baria. He had a special course of military training at Poona. During his father's life-time, he was the Commandant of the Bhavnagar State Lancers, and an extra Member of the Executive Council. In all these ways he has trained himself for the work of an administrator. He has always had about him able counsellers who have rendered valuable service to the State, the most important of them being the Honourable Mr. Prabashankar D. Pathani, C.I.E., the Dewan, once His Highness's tutor, whose elevation to the Executive Council of Bombay was announced only recently. With his assistance the Maharajah was able to effect many reforms. The present prosperous condition of the State is due mainly to the zeal and energy of Mr. Pathani. In the matter of education the State has reached a high level of efficiency. Besides an Arts College and a High School, there are nine middle schools, one hundred and sixty primary schools, and seven aided schools. Special attention is paid to the elevation and education of the depressed classes. Scholarships are given to deserving students to enable them to prosecute their studies elsewhere. The municipal administration too is equally satisfactory, there being ten municipalities in the State. The

famine administration of 1899-900 reflected the greatest credit on the Durbar. Relief works were established on a liberal scale, and remissions of taxes were made to the extent of nearly fifteen lakhs, the whole famine expenditure exceeding twenty lakhs.

The Maharani died in 1903, and the Maharajah married a daughter of the Chief of Khirasa in 1905. On the 19th May 1912, a son and heir was born to His Highness, and the auspicious event was celebrated amidst great rejoicings with all oriental splendour.

During the South African War, His Highness contributed a hundred trained horses with equipment and fifty men for Lumsden's Horse. The Chief was created a K.C.S.I. in 1904, and in 1909 the personal distinction of Maharajah was conferred on him. The Port of Bhavnagar has been much improved, and a dak and a wharf have been constructed. There are large railway schemes under consideration. In 1908 a very successful Industrial Exhibition was held at Bhavnagar.

His Highness is, of course, most loyal to the Ruling House of England. The last Delhi Coronation Day was celebrated with the greatest enthusiasm at the capital. Their Excellencies Sir George and Lady Clarke, and His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda, paid a visit to the State in 1911.

Her Highness the present Maharani is an accomplished young lady educated in both English and Gujarati. She takes great interest in female education and freely accompanies her husband in his tours through the State. Two Girls' Schools and a Ladies' College have been established in the State under her influence. She is a life-member of the Countess of Dufferin Fund,and takes a lively interest in many philanthropic movements. She has instituted a gold medal for music at the Seva Sadan, Bombay, in memory of the late Miss Violet Clarke (the daughter of the late Governor of Bombay). At the Delhi Durbar 1911, Her Highness was admitted to the Order of the Crown of India. The Maharani is a real helpmate to the Maharajah in all his administrative activities.

The wedding of the Princess of Bhavnagar, Kunwari Shri Manharkunverba, the only daughter of the Maharajah Saheb, with the young Chief of Panna, was celebrated on a magnificent scale at Bhavnagar on the 2nd December 1912. Many neighbouring Ruling Chiefs, and high European and Indian officials and noblemen honored the occasion with their kind presence.

Bhavnagar is a very flourishing State keeping pace with modern progress under the immediate care of the present enlightened Ruler, His Highness the Maharajah Sir Rawal Shri Bhavsinghji Takhatsinghji, K.C.S.I.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH MAHENDRA JADVENDRA SINGH BAHADUR MAHARAJAH OF PANNA

In the Bundelkhand Agency of Central India lies the Sanad State of Panna. It is in three detached pieces surrounding their respective chief towns of Panna, Bakswaho and Birsinghpur. It covers an area of 2,492 square miles and has a population of about 200,000. The State is well-known for its rich mineral deposits, especially for its famous diamond mines, scattered over a radius of fifty miles round the city of Panna. A branch of the Vindhyas, known as the Panna range, traverses the country from north-east to south-west. The river Ken separates it from the sister State of Chhatarpur. Rich and extensive forests cover the country. There are also small tracts of scrub jungles. Among the wild amimals met with may be mentioned the tiger, the bear, the sambar, and the wild hog. Game is plentiful in the forests. The climate, though hot, is fair with an average annual rainfall of forty-two inches. More than a third of the people live by agriculture, and about a fourth by general labour. Tanks constitute the chief source of irrigation. It is only in recent years that the administration of forests has been placed on a sound basis, and they have now come to be of great economic value to the State. Timber and grains constitute the principal articles of trade. The Chief exercises all the powers of rulers of similar senior sanad States. The revenue amounts to about six lakhs per annum. The army consists of 30 cavalry, 150 infantry and 12 gunners with 19 serviceable guns. Peace is maintained by a police force of 130 men, besides the rural police of 450 chaukidars. There is a jail at the capital town. Instruction is afforded in thirty-five schools. Medical aid is given in one hospital and four dispensaries. The Chief enjoys a salute of eleven guns.

The diamond mines of Panna seem to have been worked from the middle of the seventeenth century, probably even from earlier days. The diamonds, though small in size, are known for their great lustre and purity. One large diamond, taken from the mines, worth about half a lakh of rupees, is in the possession of the Maharajah. The income from the mines

was once as large as four lakhs, but it has now dwindled to about seven thousand a year.

For administrative purposes the State is divided into eleven parganas. The town of Panna, with a population of about 12,000, seems to have been an important place for a long time. It was originally the head-quarters of a Gond Chief, and the Baghelas of Rewah took possession of the country in the thirteenth century. Sikandar Lodi is said to have attacked it in 1494. One Rajah Ramchandra Deo, it would appear, ruled over the State about the middle of the sixteenth century. But it was from the end of the seventeenth century that Panna became particularly prominent, when Chhatarsal made it his capital in 1675. It is a picturesque little town, 800 feet above the sea-level, cleanly in appearance, built of solid stones and surrounded by hills. The new palace is a fine building. There are several temples in Panna, but the best among them is the one dedicated to Balram, built for Maharajah Rudra Pratap Singh by an English Engineer, on the design of the famous Cathedral of St. Paul's. There is also an interesting shrine dedicated to the famous preacher, Pran Nath, who is credited with having first advised the working of the diamond mines. The memory of this great preacher is held in reverence all over the State. He seems to have come into the country in the days of Rajah Sabha Singh about the middle of the eighteenth century. It appears he worked most to produce harmony among Mahomedans and Hindus, and for this purpose he published a book, entitled the *Mahitariyal*, showing the similarity in the fundamental truths of both the religions by bringing together parallel passages from the Koran and the Vedas. This great work is kept in the shrine covered with a gold-embroidered cloth and is worshipped by many devotees. Pran Nath also wanted to bring about union between Mahomedans and Hindus by introducing a system of interdining among the members of the two sects. His cult seems to have many followers in Nepal also They are generally known as Dhamas or Pran Nathees. Many students resort to the town to study the doctrines of this faith.

The Chiefs of Panna are connected with the ruling house of Orchha. In the political confusion of the eighteenth century owing to a fratricidal war among the sons of Shah Jahan, the whole of Bundelkhand was plunged in disorder until Champat Rai, a grandson of Udot Singh of Orchha, became the recognised leader of the Bundela cause. He was very useful to Aurangzeb at first and was in high favour at the Moghul court. Later on he fell into disfavour, and to escape humiliation he was killed at his request by his wife, who subsequently committed suicide. Their son, Chhatarsal, then assumed the leadership of the Bundela clan, and became the most powerful monarch of his time,

His first capital was Kalinjar, and later on, as already observed, he moved to Panna in 1675. In his last days Chhatarsal, however, met with many reverses. In 1729 the Emperor Mahomed Shah sent a large army under the leadership of Mahomed Khan Bangash against Chhatarsal, who, reduced to extremities, was compelled to seek the assistance of Baji Rao, the Peshwa. The Moghul army was expelled after a siege of six months from Jaitpur. When these wars came to a close, Chhatarsal divided his vast possessions among his sons. The tracts round Panna, which yielded an annual revenue of thirty-nine lakhs, fell to the share of his eldest son, Hirde Sah; the Peshwa got tracts round the Saugor district, worth thirty-two lakhs per annum; and a third section about Jaitpur went to his third son, Jagat Raj, valued at thirty-one lakhs, besides numerous smaller grants to vassals. Chhatarsal died in 1732 at the ripe age of eighty-nine. It is said that he had a large number of sons from whom are descended the present ruling families of Panna, Charkhari, Ajaigarh, Bijawar, Sarila, Jaso, Jigni and Lugasi. Panna is even now looked on as the premier Bundela State, east of the Dhasan.

Hirde Sah ruled for seven years, when Sabha Singh succeeded him (1739-52). It was in the days of this prince that Panna diamond mines came to be worked. The next Chief was Aman Singh (1752-58), who was murdered and succeeded by his brother, Hindupat (1758-77). In 1777 Anirudh, a minor and younger son of Hindupat, was placed on the *gadi*, and the administration was entrusted to Beni Hazuri, and a Brahmin, Khemraj Chaube. The jealousies between the two brought on a civil war in the State, and matters became worse when Anirudh died in 1779. Numerous claimants appeared on the scene, and in the confusion, Beni Hazuri, Khemraj, and Sone Sah Ponwar, founded ultimately the States of Maihar, Paldeo and Chhatarpur respectively. Dhokal Singh, a brother of Anirudh, was able to establish himself in Panna in 1785, and he continued to rule till 1798. Bundelkhand was at this time ravaged by the Gosain leader, Himmat Bahadur, and his confederate, AliBahadur, generally known as the Nawab of Banda. The latter asserted his suzerainty over the Chiefs of Bundelkhand including Dhokal Singh, and issued sanads to them. The next ruler was Kishor Singh (1798-1840). He was actually an exile when the British came in possession of these tracts, and by sanads granted to him in 1807 and 1811, he was restored to his possessions. Then came Harbans Rai (1840-49), who was succeeded by Nriput Singh. The latter ruled till 1870. It was during his days that the Mutiny broke out, and for his loyal services in holding the fort of Kalinjar, and for his having cleared the Damoh district of all rebels, he was rewarded with a khilat of Rs. 20,000 and also the Simaria pargana. The title of Mahendra was conferred on him as a personal distinction in 1869, and it was made heredi-

tary in 1875. He was succeeded by Rudra Pratap Singh in 1870. Rudra Pratap was created a K.C.S.I. in 1876, and in 1877 he was also given an addition of two guns to his salute as a personal honour. His brother, Lokpal Singh, was the next ruler. He died in 1897, and was succeeded by Madho Singh. The latter was deposed in 1902.

His cousin, Jadvendra Singh, the present Chief, born in 1893, was then placed on the *gadi*. He is a minor, and so the State is under the control of the Political Agent. The Prince has received his education at the Mayo College, Ajmer. Very soon he will attain his majority and assume charge of his principality. Recently his marriage with the only daughter of H. H. the Maharajah Bahadur of Bhavnagar was celebrated at Bhavnagar with all oriental pomp. Mr. Sladen, the Political Agent of Kathiawar, in proposing the toast of the bridegroom, spoke of him as follows :—

His Highness is a descendant of the famous Maharajah Chhatarsal, who was the leading Rajput of his day in Bundelkhand, and the State is in extent similar to the State of Bhavnagar. Its rugged hills and jungles bred a race, long famous for their military prowess. His Highness the Maharajah combines skill at polo and other manly sports with a liberal education. While a good sportsman he is fond of study and is keenly alive to the more serious task of ruling which lies before him. His Highness Sir Bhavsinghji has found in him a man broad-minded, with views in sympathy with his own, and able to appreciate the sterling worth of his bride. His Highness the Maharajah Mahendra will take away with him from Bhavnagar a jewel more excellent than the famous Panna diamonds. We may hope it may not be long before he is installed on the *gadi* to which he succeeded many years ago.

The accomplishments of the bride cannot be better described than in the words of Mr. Sladen. In reply to the modest claims of her father that he had endeavoured to give her that kind of training which the present condition of India required in the children of the ruling families, Mr. Sladen observed :—

I feel sure you will all unite in expressing admiration of the solicitude with which His Highness and the Rani Sahiba have trained their daughter for the high position she is destined to occupy. Hers is no ordinary education : her attainments, literary, social, and artistic, are such as any lady might be proud of. Nine gold medals and a diploma from the Committee of the Festival of Empire last July are a rare distinction. A lady of such ability and such wide training will without doubt be a worthy helpmate in the administration of a State.

His Highness will soon assume the responsibilities of the State, and with the noble traditions of the family of the great Chhatarsal, and the example of his illustrious father-in-law, H. H. the Maharajah Bahadur of Bhavnagar to guide him, he must make a really popular and capable ruler.

HIS HIGHNESS SHRIMANT SHANKAR RAO PANDIT PANT SACHIV CHIEF OF BHOR

THE Mahratta State of Bhor under the political control of the Collector of Poona lies in the Districts of Poona and Satara. It covers an area of 925 square miles and has a population of 144, 587. Its gross revenue comes to about five lakhs. It is a State that played a prominent part in the early Mahratta history of the Deccan, and its founder, Shankaraji Narayan, was one of the Brahmin Generals of Rajaram, the younger son of Shivaji. Lying in the heart of the Mahratta country, the State has many places of historic interest. The fort of Prachandgad or Torna, the first stronghold captured by Shivaji in 1646, lies within its limits, some twenty miles south-west of Poona. Three miles away from this is the strong fort of Rajgad, built under the special supervision of Shivaji. Tung, Tikona, Rohida, Sarasgad, and Sudhagad, are also other forts of historic importance. The beautiful caves of Nenavli and Nadsur are worth the attention of archæologists. Ambavde and Baneshwar with Shiva temples attract many pilgrims, and are also known as good health-resorts. Ambadkhind Vishram Ghat, eight miles south of Bhor, Usar in Sudhagad, Raireshwar in Vichitragad, and Vageshwar in Kolwan, are pleasant and healthy hill stations. The hardware goods of Vele, the brass vessels of Pali, and the cotton fabrics of Nasarapur constitute the chief industries.

Soon after the death of Shivaji, in the confusion that arose during the days of Shambhaji and Shahu, the rising Mahratta power was for a while threatened with extinction. This was averted by the advent to power of Rajaram, a younger son of Shivaji, and by the able band of Mahratta Chiefs that gathered around him. The stirring adventures of Rajaram against the forces of Aurangzeb are even now sung in ballads or folk songs all over the Mahrashtra. Among the men who came to prominence in those troublous times stands foremost Shankaraji Narayan, the founder of the State of Bhor. Mainly by his personal influence, he brought together a large force of hill-men and mak-

ing a good army out of them, did great service in rehabilitating the declining Mahratta power. In 1692 he captured the strong fort of Rajgad under the most difficult conditions; and it is said that he himself led the army by scaling the walls of that fort with a sword in hand. He recovered the next year the forts of Torna and Rohida from the Mahomedans. When Rajaram took refuge at Jinji in the Carnatic, leaving the affairs of the Mahratta Raj in the hands of Ramchandra Pant Amatya, Shankaraji Narayan was most useful to the Minister. Again, in the struggles before the fort of Jinji, he greatly distinguished himself by his personal prowess and courage, and it was mainly through his efforts that Rajaram was extricated from the hands of the Moghuls and taken back to Satara after many adventures and hair-breadth escapes. In recognition of his services Shankaraji Narayan was granted inams and annuities and had the title of *Madarul-Mohul* (the most faithful councillor) conferred on him. Later on in 1697 he was raised to the post of *Sachiv* or a member of the cabinet of eight ministers of Rajaram, and was in charge of the finances of the Satara Court. Rich jaghirs were conferred on him, including the forts of Rajgad and Torna. After the death of Aurangzeb in 1707, in the struggles between Shahu and Tara Bai, Shankraji maintained a neutral attitude by becoming a *sanyasi.* He died the next year. His successors, the Sachivs of Bhor, as they have been called, were very friendly with the Peshwas, and continued to be influential. In 1820 Mount Stuart Elphinstone entered into a treaty with the Pant Sachiv, which still regulates the relationship between the State of Bhor and the British Government. It became an independent feudatory State under British protection in 1849, when the Satara State lapsed into the East India Company's possessions. Since then it has remained most loyal to the Paramount Power. It received the usual sanad of adoption in 1862, and, in the matter of succession, it follows the law of primogeniture.

His Highness Shrimant Shankar Rao Pandit Pant Sachiv, the present Chief of Bhor, is the ninth in descent from the original founder. Born in April 1854, he came to the *gadi* in 1871, and was invested with full powers in 1874. Continuity of policy in administration since then has brought many advantages to the Bhor State. The Chief is known as an able and sympathetic administrator, with liberal and progressive ideas. Successive British Officers have borne testimony to his great success and popularity as a ruler. A cultured and kind-hearted Brahmin Chief, he has inherited most of the traditional ideas of the ancient Hindu monarchs, as a father and protector of their people. For instance, when Colonel Godfrey, the Survey Commissioner, was deputed to make a new settlement of lands, His Highness specially requested him to be lenient in the matter of assessments; and the land revenue in Bhor is consequently much less

exacting than in the surrounding British areas. All vexatious transit duties have been done away with. Special attention is paid to the construction of roads. Nearly half a lakh is spent every year on public works, and this policy, uniformly followed during the last four decades, has effected vast improvements, and has endowed almost all the villages with wells, *chavadies* and *dharmasalas*. His Highness maintains an efficient High School at the capital, where the boys of the poorest of his subjects can obtain good secondary education at a nominal cost of eight annas a month. Primary education is free, and in the numerous village schools supported by the State, facilities are afforded to the children of the backward classes to receive the rudiments of education. In the time of the father of the present Chief, proper arrangements were made, at a cost of more than a lakh of rupees, to secure a never-failing supply of good potable water for the town of Bhor, and speaking of it, Lord Reay, an ex-Governor of Bombay, observed :—"I am reminded of the water-supply in Bombay, and I envy the position of the Pant Sachiv in this respect." The Chief enjoys full administrative powers, and his judicial administration has elicited warm praises from Political Officers.

Many public buildings have been put up during the present regime, and Lord Harris, congratulating the people of Bhor on having such a benevolent Chief, observed :—"These public edifices show the feeling of affection and regard of the Pant Sachiv for his subjects.". The tracts have been most exposed to the ravages of plague during the last twenty years, and the precautionary measures taken have been warmly appreciated by the Government of Bombay. In the matter of famine administration also, the Chief has been equally successful. The financial condition of the State is very sound, the Ruler himself paying immediate attention to every department and looking to all correspondence. Successive Governors have spoken highly of the culture, enlightenment, regularity, method, and devotion to duty of the Pant Sachiv. His loyalty is well-known. He has repeatedly offered his services and contributions to the British Government in almost every war that has broken out in recent times. He has been as often thanked for it by the Supreme Government. At the Delhi Durbar of 1903, a personal salute of nine guns was conferred on him, and this was subsequently increased by two. The heir-apparent, Shrimant Baba Saheb, is a well-educated, accomplished and enlightened Prince.

Since 1871 the State has enjoyed an unbroken policy of sound and vigorous administration, which has made it one of the most flourishing and progressive principalities of the Western Presidency.

HIS HIGHNESS THE SAWAI MAHARAJAH SIR RANJOR SINGH SAHEB BAHADUR, K.C.I.E., MAHARAJAH OF AJAIGARH

IN the Bundelkhand Political Agency of Central India lies the Rajput Sanad State of Ajaigarh, whose rulers are descended, like those of Charkhari, Bijawar, and Sarila, from the famous Chhatarsal of Panna. It is 771 square miles in extent, and has a population of about 80,000; nine-tenths of these are Hindus, the rest being made up of Animists and Mahomedans. Agriculture is the main source of living for the people. More than half the State is under cultivation, though only a very small portion, hardly ten square miles, enjoys the benefits of irrigation. About a fifth of the total area is covered with forests, and there are still extensive tracts to be reclaimed Wheat, jowar, rice, barley, and cotton, constitute the chief products. The country is hilly, and the soil fairly fertile. The average rainfall is about fifty inches, and the Khen, with its affluents, is the chief river. Though iron ore is obtainable in plenty, it cannot be worked owing to competition with foreign imported metal. Diamonds are found in a few places. Trade does not flourish for want of good roads. The revenue of the State is about three lakhs. The army is made up of 75 cavalry, 350 infantry, and 44 artillerymen, with 9 guns. Instruction is afforded in four schools. There is one dispensary at the capital for medical aid. There are some places of archæological interest, such as the fort at Ajaigarh, and the remains of a large town, which seem to have flourished under the Chandel rulers of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Inscriptions, as old as the fourteenth century, have been met with near the ruins. Nachna, two miles from Ganj, is another place of interest, near which also lie the remnants of a defunct town and of old temples, showing the influences of the Gupta style of architecture. The Chief is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

As already detailed in the account of the Panna State, the great Chhatarsal, after having consolidated the whole of Bundelkhand into a powerful principality with the help of the Peshwa, divided his territories

just before his death among his two sons and the Peshwa. The tract about Jaitpur, valued at thirty-one lakhs, went to the share of his third son, Jagat Raj, from whom the rulers of Ajaigarh are descended. Jagat Raj's great-grandson, Bakht Singh, was the Chief of Banda and Ajaigarh, at the time these tracts passed under British protection. In 1807 he received a sanad from the East India Company confirming him in his possessions.

The present ruler, H. H. the Sawai Maharajah Sir Ranjor Singh Saheb Bahadur, K. C. I. E., is the grandson of Bakht Singh through his second son, Sawai Maharajah Mahipat Singh. He is a Mutiny veteran, a sort of venerable connecting link between the old order and the new. He was born on the 28th September 1848, and was thus about ten years of age at the time of the Mutiny. His mother, who was then ruling the State as Maharani Regent, was most serviceable to the British by affording refuge to many European officers, and her young son was equally enthusiastic in the British cause and seems to have been present with the State army in its operations against the rebels.

A son brought up by such a loyal mother inherits the same attachment to the British Throne. He is a typical Rajput of the old school and takes an all-round interest in the affairs of his State. The ancient title of Sawai was revived to the family at the Delhi Durbar of 1877. The family motto is Randhir Ajai Bir (the steadfast in war is an unconquered hero). The administration of the Rajah has been very much appreciated by successive Political Officers. In 1887 the Government of India conferred on him enhanced criminal jurisdiction. He was made a K.C.I.E. in 1897. His Highness is a prince of great learning and varied interests. He has brought out many books on numerous subjects, including medicine and cookery. He has also published lively accounts of his Mutiny reminiscences. In his younger days His Highness the Rajah was a keen and enthusiastic sportsman. On one occasion, it would appear that, while out hunting, he had to spear, with his own hand, before assistance could reach him, a wild tigress that he suddenly came across. His Highness is very jealous about the traditions of his great house and pays special attention to the training of his children. He maintains in his palace a Maharaj Kumar School, in which all the children of his household are most carefully trained under his direct supervision to fit them for the high position in the world as true Rajput Princes. His Highness is justly popular as a wise and venerable ruler among the Chiefs of Northern India, and is on terms of intimacy with most of the Ruling Princes in those parts. The heir to the *gadi* is Rajah Bahadur Bhopal Singh, born in 1866.

Under the parental care of His Highness the Maharajah Sir Ranjor Singh Saheb Bahadur, K.C.I.E., the people of Ajaigarh are contented and happy.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RANA RANJIT SINGH BAHADUR RANA OF BARWANI

THE picturesque and hilly State of Barwani under the Southern States Agency of Central India is adjacent to the British District of Khandesh, and has an area of 1,178 square miles. It falls into two natural sections, the fertile alluvial plain of the Narbada, and the rough and uneven tracts, made up of successive ranges of hills and valleys, covered with thick and luxuriant forests. From the ruins of civilization met with in the valley, it would appear that it was once a prosperous tract used by the Moghul nobles and officials of Bijagarh as a favourite place of resort. Out of the total population of 1,08,563, Hindus make up one half, while Animists number nearly 40 per cent, and the rest are Mahomedans. The Bhil and Hindi dialects are the prevailing languages. Nearly half the State is covered with forests, and more than one-fourth has been brought under cultivation. The chief crops are jowar, bajra, cotton, wheat, gram, and maize. The tracts are noted for their fine breed of cattle, the bullocks of Nimar being specially valued for their size and strength. The remoteness of the State from railway lines has seriously told on its commercial prosperity, the nearest railway station being eighty miles distant from Barwani. Each of the four parganas into which the State is divided is in charge of a Kamasdar. The Chief exercises full powers in all matters. The revenue is about six lakhs, and the State pays no tribute. It, however, contributes Rs. 3,389 towards the maintenance of the Malwa Bhil corps. There is a Central Jail at Barwani. The first school in the State was opened in 1863, and a High School, affiliated to the Allahabad University, came into existence in 1898. Instruction is imparted in thirty-four schools. The Agency Surgeon advises regarding the medical establishment. The capital town, Barwani, near the banks of the Narbada, has a population of about 7,000; and it is said to have been founded by Rana Chandra Singh about the middle of the seventeenth century. Bawangaja, a famous place of pilgrimage

to the Jains, is very near the town. It is adjacent to a hill, on the top of which is a temple with inscriptions dating from the twelfth century. There are also other temples near the locality, but they are of an inferior architecture, some of them being even modern.

The Chiefs of Barwani belong to the famous class of Sesodia Rajputs, and are said to have come of the house of Udaipur. It would appear that a descendant of Bapa Rawal, by his second son, migrated sometime between the eleventh and fourteenth centuries to the Narbada districts and established himself at Avasgarh, a hill station, eight miles from Jalgun. Nothing authentic is known about the subsequent history of the Ranas, of whom there seem to have been fifty-two till now. It is said that the thirty-fifth among them, Paras Ram Singh, was defeated by the Moghuls and carried away as a prisoner to Delhi, and was restored to the State again. About 1650 Chandra Singh removed the capital to Barwani as Avasgarh was too weak in point of its position. From the days of his son and successor, Mohan Singh, the State began to decline steadily owing to the attacks of the Mahrattas ; and though the Ranas of Barwani were never formally tributary to any of the great Malwa Chiefs, their own State became smaller and smaller until what now remains was all that was left to them at the time of the Malwa settlement. Rana Mohan Singh II was then the ruler.

In 1839, his son, Jaswant Singh, succeeded him. He died in 1880, leaving the succession to his brother, Indrajit. On the latter's death in 1894, his six-year-old son, Rana Ranjit Singh, became the Chief, and the State was placed under the control of the Political Agent.

His Highness the Rana Ranjit Singh, born on the 26th December 1888, inherited the right of succession on the 8th January 1895. Special attention was paid to the education of the young Prince, first at the Rajkumar College, Indore, and subsequently at the Mayo College, Ajmer. After completing his studies, he returned to his State in 1907, and three years hence, on the 12th January 1910, he was invested with full powers. His Highness is very good at sports ; he is a clever shot and an excellent tennis player. For the benefit of the officers of the State, he has organized a club at Barwani, called after his own name. At the Delhi Durbar of 1911, the salute of the Chief was raised from nine to eleven guns.

His Highness is anxious to earn a name as a beneficent Ruler, and Barwani may hope to have a good time of it under his administration.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH RIPUDAMAN SINGH BAHADUR MAHARAJAH OF NABHA

THE smallest in size but the second in population and revenue of the three Phulkian States is Nabha, whose rulers represent the eldest line of descent from the progenitor of the three families. It covers an area of 966 square miles and has a population of about 300,000, It consists of three detached pieces or Nizamats—Phul, Amloh, and Bawal, the last on the borders of Rajputana. Save the Sirhind, which flows through thirty miles of Amloh, there are no rivers of importance, barring a few seasonal streams. About a fourth of the population only are Sikhs, and more than one-half Hindus. The people of Bawal are mostly orthodox Hindus. Punjabi and Hindustani are the two languages current. More than half the population live by agriculture. Gram, pulses, bajra and barley are the principal products. The chief markets are Phul, Jaito, and Mahasar, at the last of which animals worth nearly two lakhs seem to change hands every year. Camels are generally used for purposes of ploughing and for the transport of grains. In the hills of the Bawal Nizamat stone is quarried. Silver and gold ornaments, brass utensils, toys and earthen vessels and lace or *gota*, constitute the principal manufactures. The fabrics, known as *gabrun* and *susi*, are woven in Amloh, and recently the manufacture of hardware has been introduced. Cotton carpets are prepared in Amloh and Nabha. A cotton-ginning factory and a steam cotton-press are found in the capital, and there is a steam oil-mill at Jaito. Cotton and grains are exported largely. The State enjoys the benefits of good railway communications. There is a common Political Agent for Bahawalpur and the Phulkian States with head-quarters at Patiala. The administration is carried on by the Chief in person assisted by a Council of three members, called the *Ijlas-i-alia*. It is the highest court of appeal for all judicial and administrative purposes. The Mir Munshi or Foreign Minister is in charge of the postal, canal, and educational departments; the Bakhshi or Commander-in-Chief controls the army and the police; the Hakim-i-adalat-i-sadr is the head of the judicial department, and the Diwan-i-mal sadr looks after revenue and finance mat-

ters. The Nizamats are divided into Thanas. Sentences of death are generally passed by the Ijlas-i-Khas presided over by the Chief. The State rupee is worth about fifteen annas of British money. In the management of the Public Works department, the Dewan is assisted by the Afsar-i-Tamirat. The State troops have a great record of past good work. It consists of 600 infantry, 177 transport men, 258 transport animals, 150 cavalry, and 40 artillery, with thirteen guns, ten of which are serviceable. There is also a local infantry corps of 65 officers and men, a military police of 590, and a mounted police of 130. The Imperial Service Troops were organized in 1889. It was employed in quelling the disturbance in the Swat Valley and Mohmand. For purposes of preserving the peace, there is a police force of 40 officers and 800 men. Education is imparted in thirteen public schools. There is a high school at Nabha and a middle school at Bawal. Medical relief is given in eight dispensaries and in a hospital at the capital. The chief town is Nabha with a population of about 20 000. It is the only municipality in the State. The town was founded by Hamir Singh in 1755. It is surrounded by a mud wall with six gates. In the centre is the fort, where public offices are now located. The palaces of the Maharajah, the Phukta Garden, the Shambagh, and the Elgin House, are places of interest in the town. The High School and the Lansdowne Hospital are also in it. The cantonment and the jail are located outside of it. The revenue of the State is over sixteen lakhs. The Maharajah is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

Nabha as a separate ruling State may be said to date from 1763. Till then its influence was mainly local. Of course its early history is the same as that of the other Phulkian States. Tiloka, the eldest son of Phul, died in 1687. Of his two sons, Gurditta, the elder, founded Dhanaula and Sangrur; the second, Sukhchen, was the progenitor of the Jind family. In 1755 Hamir Singh, the grandson of Gurditta, became the first Rajah of Nabha. He coined his own money. He often came into conflict with his kinsman, the Rajah of Jind, which resulted in the constant shifting of possessions. His son, Jaswant Singh, succeeded him as a minor in 1783 under the guardianship of his step-mother, assisted by Sahib Singh Bhangi. She died in 1790. Later on the Phulkian Chiefs made a common effort against the adventurer, George Thomas, but Nabha was generally lukewarm in the matter. By the treaty of 1801, however, Nabha consented to pay a tribute of Rs. 9,510 per annum to the Mahrattas. In the wars against Holkar, Jaswant Singh sided with the British. In return for this, he had an assurance from Lord Lake that he would be left not only undisturbed in his possessions, but free from all tribute. Along with the other cis-Sutlej Chiefs, he was brought under British protection in 1809. In the first Gurkha war he was useful to General Ochterlony, and in the Bikanir affairs he was on the side of the English. For the Afghan

campaign of 1838, he advanced six lakhs of rupees to the Company, and also offered the services of his troops. His son and successor, who came to the *gadi* in 1840, was rather shifty, and his conduct during the first Sikh war resulted in the confiscation of a fourth of his territory, and in his supersession by his minor son, Bharpur Singh, who was the ruler of Nabha during the critical time of the Mutiny. He was very useful to the British. He looked after Ludhiana town and the Sutlej ferries soon after the outbreak. It was with the help of a contingent of 300 Nabha troops that a siege train marching from Phillaur to Delhi was saved, when the detachment in charge of it rebelled. Another contingent of three hundred was sent to Delhi by the Rajah, which did good service all through the siege. He also helped the British in raising new troops from among his subjects, arrested the mutineers, and furnished supplies and transports, besides proving useful in many other ways. He further advanced two lakhs and a half to the Government In return for his services he was granted Bawal and Kanti, with permission to purchase Kanaud. He was invested with full ruling powers, and was given the right of adoption. The British also undertook not to interfere in the internal affairs of the State. He was an energetic and capable ruler, and might have done very much for the improvement of the State, but for his untimely death in 1863.

He was succeeded by his brother, Bhagwan Singh, who died childless in 1871. Consequently, according to the provisions of the sanad of 1860, by which in case of failure of heirs in any of the three Phulkian States, the other two States and the British Government together should select a ruler, Sardar Hira Singh of the Badrukhan house, a cousin of the Rajah of Jind, was placed on the *gadi*, with the approval of the Viceroy and the Secretary of State for India. He was a most popular and able ruler, and gave repeated proofs of his loyalty to the British. For the Kuka rebellion of 1872, he despatched a force, which did good service, and he was thanked for it by the Governor-General. A contingent of 200 cavalry and 500 infantry, with two guns, took part in the Afghan war of 1879-80, and it rendered valuable aid in the Kurram Valley. In recognition of his loyalty he was made a G.C.S.I. For the Malta expedition of 1878, for the Egyptian war of 1882, for the campaigns against Manipur (1891), Waziristan (1894), Chitral (1895), China (1900), and for the South African war, he readily offered his services, for which he was duly thanked by the Government of India. He sent fifty of his horses fully equipped to South Africa. On the occasion of the Delhi Durbar of 1903, His Highness the Rajah was created a G. C. I. E., and an Honorary Colonel of the 14th Sikhs. He enjoyed a personal salute of fifteen guns. He passed away on the 25th December 1911, full of years and honours, and was succeeded by the present Chief, Prince Ripudaman Singh.

His Highness the Maharajah Ripudaman Singh was born on the 4th March 1883. He received his education privately. He was married in 1901. He has travelled all over India and England. He had the advantage of a splendid administrative training under his father. From 1906 to 1908 he was a nominated Member of the Viceregal Council, where he introduced the Anand (Sikh) Marriage Bill. He is an ardent social reformer, and was the President of the Indian National Social Conference at Lahore in 1909. He is a great believer in the influence of woman in the evolution of social life in India, and on one occasion he observed that all social difficulties of the Hindus arose out of two causes, namely, the caste system and the status of women. His Highness went on to say, "The qualities of the heart predominate in woman, while man excels in those of the head. The qualities of both the head and the heart must be evolved and harmonised to make human life a success. Woman must be raised from the lowest depths of degradation to enable humanity to ascend to the highest flights of evolution." In 1910 he visited Europe under medical advice. On the 13th June of that year, he was received by His Majesty the King-Emperor. Accompanied by his wife, the Maharani, he attended the Coronation of His Majesty in 1911. The hereditary distinction of *Maharajah* was conferred on him at the Delhi Durbar of 1911. His Highness's installation came off on the 24th January 1912, and the ceremonies were gone through according to the most orthodox Sikh rites. After a prayer in the family chapel situated in one of the massive and lofty bastions of the palace, His Highness held a durbar, at which the leading officers and subjects took the usual oath of allegiance. The Maharajah Saheb then announced several boons, and declared that a sum of Rupees one lakh and a half would be reserved for some charitable purpose to commemorate in a fitting manner the revered memory of his old and venerable father. He thanked his people for their sympathies, and assured them that he would do his utmost to rule the country with justice and impartiality. He also pointed out in emphatic terms the great claim which the British Government had on the loyalty and gratitude of the people of this country. An address of congratulation was then read by Khan Saheb Manawar Ali Khan, on behalf of the subjects of the State, thanking His Highness for his kind assurances.

The full titles of the Chief are—His Highness Farzand-I-Arajmand-Aqidat Paiwand-Daulat-I-Inglishia Barar Bans Sarmaur Maharajah-I-Rajgan Ripudaman Singh, Malwindar Bahadur, Maharajah of Nabha.

His Highness has commenced his rule under very good auspices, and success must be an easy matter for a Prince of his vast culture, wide knowledge of the world, and practical administrative and legislative experience. He will, no doubt, earn the gratitude and esteem of his loyal subjects by his beneficent and successful administration.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH SIR BANE SINGH BAHADUR, K. C. I. E., RAJAH OF RAJGARH.

RAJGARH is a mediated State in Central India under the political control of the Bhopal Agency. It occupies a section of Malwa, called Umatwara, from the Umat clan of Rajputs, to which the Chiefs of Rajgarh and Narsinghgarh belong. It has an area of 922·2 square miles and a population of 127,293 spread over two towns and 719 villages. Nearly nine-tenths of the people are Hindus, while Mahomedans and Animists make up the rest. Malwi is the prevailing language. Half the people live by agriculture, and about a fifth by general labour. A fourth of the total area has been brought under cultivation, but only twenty square miles receive the advantages of irrigation. Nearly a third of the State is covered with forests. The northern portion is hilly, and the southern and eastern districts are in the Malwa plateau. The Parbati is the principal river. The chief crops are jawar, maize, gram and poppy. Opium and grains constitute the important articles of trade. The remoteness of the State from railway lines is an impediment to its commercial progress, but there has been a slight improvement in it in recent years by the opening up of nearly 120 miles of metalled roads. The British postal and telegraph system is in force. Each of the five parganas into which the State is divided is controlled by a Tahsildar. The Chief exercises full powers in all civil and criminal matters, only the sentence of death for heinous crimes being subject to the confirmation of the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India (Indore). The gross revenue of the State comes to Rs. 5,27,379, the income from the jaghirs amounting to Rs. 47,000. A sum of about Rs. 54,000 is paid as tribute to Sindhia, and a further sum of Rs. 600 to the Raj Rana of Jhalawar. A regular settlement of land has recently been carried out in the State. The State army consists of 200 foot soldiers and 31 sowars, the latter constituting the Chief's body-guard. The police force numbers 308 officers and men. Instruction is imparted through two English and fourteen vernacular schools. Medical aid is given through two hospitals and one medical practitioner, all at State cost.

The town of Rajgarh, the capital of the State, is situated near the Newaj, a tributary of the Parbati. The nearest railway station is Shujaulpur,



H. H. THE RAJAH OF RAJGARH

fiftyseven miles distant on the Ujjain-Bhopal branch of the G.I.P. Railway. It was founded in the middle of the seventeenth century by Rawat Mohan Singh, who is said to have erected the battlement wall by which the town is surrounded. The only other town in the State is Biaora, and it has now greatly gone down in prosperity as the traffic along the Agra-Bombay road has declined after the opening of railways. It is, however, an important centre for opium trade.

The Umat Rajputs are said to be connected with the Paramara house of Dhar. They claim descent from Rana Umaji. Under the leadership of Sarangsen, they settled down between the Parbati and the Sindh rivers, and ruled those tracts with the title of *Rawat*. In the days of Udaji who governed the country about the beginning of the sixteenth century, his brother, Dudaji, was made Dewan or Chief Minister. The office became hereditary, the members of the Chief's family being known as Udawats, and those of the Dewan's family as Dudawats. Misunderstandings, however, soon arose between the two families, and the disputes were finally settled in the year 1675 (V. S. 1732) by the whole State being split up into the modern States of Rajgarh and Narsinghgarh. Rajgarh remained with the Chief, Mohan Singh, and Narsinghgarh went to Parasram, the Dewan. In the eighteenth century, during the Mahratta conflicts Rajagarh became tributary to Sindhia, and at the time of the settlement of Malwa by Sir John Malcolm in 1818, the position of Rajgarh as an independent State was recognized, its territorial limits were defined, and the amount to be paid to Sindhia as tribute was also fixed.

Rawat Moti Singh, who was the ruler in 1871, became a convert to Islam and assumed the title of Nawab under the name of Mahomed Abdul-Wasih-Khan; but his son, Bakhtwar Singh, who succeeded him in 1880, continued in the Hindu fold. When Bakhtwar Singh died in 1882, his son, Bal-bahadur Singh, was placed on the *gadi*. Transit duties on salt were abolished in 1880 for an annual compensation of Rs. 618-12-0, and four years after, the abolition of other duties, except the one on opium, followed.

His Highness the Rajah Sir Bane Singh Bahadur, the present Chief, born on the 24th August 1856, succeeded to the *gadi* in 1902. At the Delhi Coronation Durbar of 1903, His Highness was the recipient of a gold medal. He is a great huntsman and is said to have bagged nearly thirty tigers within ten years. He was made a K.C.I.E. in 1908. He is entitled to a salute of eleven guns. Raj Kumar Shri Birendra Singhji is the son and heir to the present Chief.

Rajgarh enjoys the benefits of an orderly and organized administration under the experienced guidance of its aged and venerable Chief,

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH ARJUN SINGH BAHADUR RAJAH OF NARASINGHGARH

The small Rajput State of Narasinghgarh covers an area of 741 square miles and has a population of about 100,000. The revenue is a little over five lakhs. The Chief exercises full powers in all revenue and civil matters; but, in criminal cases, his powers are limited to those of a Sessions Judge, the more heinous offences being tried by the Political Agent. The Rajah is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

The present ruling family is an off-shoot of that of Rajgarh. In the middle of the seventeenth century, Udaji was the ruler of Rajgarh, with his brother, Dudaji, as his Prime Minister. About 1661 Rawat Mohan Singh succeeded to the Rajgarh State while yet a minor, and the administration was at first in the hands of his cousin, Dewan Ajab Singh, and then in those of his son, Paras Ram.

In 1872 the hereditary title of *Rajah* and a salute of eleven guns were conferred on the then Chief, Hanwant Singh. In 1880 all transit duties on salt were abolished in return for an annual payment of Rs. 618-12-0. All other transit duties, except the one on opium, were done away with in 1884. The State made a contribution of Rs. 50,000 for the construction of a good road from Biaora to Sehore. Pratap Singh, the successor of Hanwant Singh, passed away in 1890, and was succeeded by his uncle, Mahtab Singh. He died in 1896 without issue, when the British Government selected the present Chief, Arjun Singh, from the Bhathkhera Thakur's family.

His Highness the Rajah Arjun Singh, born on the 10th January 1887, was educated at the Daly College, Indore, and then at the Mayo College, Ajmer. He received his military training in the Imperial Cadet Corps at Dehra Dun. During his minority the State was administered by Superintendents under the direct control of the Political Agent of Bhopal. The Prince has married the second daughter of H. H. the Rajah of Sailana. He was invested with full powers on the 11th March 1909. He has a son and heir, Mahraj Kunwar Bikram Singh, born in September of the same year. The Chief is energetic and popular, exercising careful supervision over his State. He has established a girls' school at Narsinghgarh, and has founded a hospital for women.

The State is making good progress under the young ruler who has many years of useful life before him.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH SIR RAM SINGHJI SAHIB BAHADUR, K. C. I. E., RAJAH OF SITAMAU

The Sitamau State, which is one of the mediatised States in the Malwa Political Charge of the Central India Agency, has an area of about 185 square miles, and a population of 26,484, which is almost entirely Hindu. It is bounded on the north by the Mandsaur district of Gwalior and Rampura-Bhanpura district of Indore ; on the east by the Jhalawar State of the Rajputana Agency ; on the south by Jaora and Dewas and on the west by the Mandsaur district of Gwalior. The whole State lies on the Malwa plateau, the country consisting of broad rolling plains with here and there the flat topped-hills characteristic of the trap country. The principal rivers flowing through this State are the Chambal and the Sansri. There are also two tanks, the more important of which is the Lav-Sagar, situated near the palace of Laduna, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Sitamau. The capital, Sitamau, is situated at a distance of 20 miles from Mandsaur, a station on the Rajputana Malwa Railway and is connected with it by a metalled road.

The climate is the same as that of Malwa generally, temperate, no extremes being met with. For administrative purposes the State is divided into three Tahsils *viz.*, Sadar, Bhagore and Titrode. The revenue system is a modified form of the Roytwari, and the ordinary holdings vary from 30 to 60 bighas. There are no Ijardars, but there are Tipdars, who will be necessary until the cultivators become both more prosperous and more prudent. The colloquial dialect of the State is Rangri, while the State records are kept in the Hindi language.

The spirit of the British Indian laws is followed, and in some cases the Acts of the Government of India have been adopted to suit the local circumstances. It is satisfactory to notice that Sitamau, like Ratlam, adopts an enlightened policy in the treatment of its Jagirdars. The Durbar has given its Jagirdars modified judicial powers and thus associated and identified them with the State. This policy will be more successful as the Jagirdars become more educated. They will take a pride in their office and will recognise the trust imposed in them by the Durbar which they will repay with loyalty, The trade is almost entirely agricultural, but condiments,

cloth and timber are imported. The customs duties are low compared with those in the neighbouring States, and there are no transit duties except on opium and wood. There is a combined Post Office at Sitamau which distributes letters and telegrams through the villages by means of a village postman. More than half the State (68 per cent) consists of Jagirs, and the Jagirdars make the usual contributions to the State of Tankas, Nazarana, Banpatti, Tikapatti, etc. The gross income of the State is Rs. 3,00,000, whereas the tribute payable to Gwalior is Rs. 55,000, Shah Alam Shahi. Medical aid is afforded in a small but good dispensary at Sitamau costing Rs. 1,754 annually, exclusive of the diet of in-patients, which is given as a charity by the State. There is a very fair Anglo-Vernacular Middle School at Sitamau teaching up to the English fifth standard, and one branch Vernacular School was opened at Laduna on the 17th June 1907.

The Chiefs of Sitamau are Rathor Rajputs of the Ratnaut branch and are thus related by consanguinity to the Maharajahs of Jodhpur, Bikanir, Kishangarh and Idar, and the Rajahs of Ratlam and Sailana.

Dalpat Singhji Sahib was the seventh son of Maharajah Udey Singhji Sahib, Prince of Jodhpur, from whom he received the Chiefship of Jalor or his maintenance.

Maharajah Mahesh Dasji Sahib was the eldest son of Maharajah Dalpat Singhji Sahib. In 1634 he entered the Imperial Army and received a grant of a *mansab* in return for his services from the Emperor. His mother, Maji Sahiba Chauhanji, having died at Sitamau in the course of a pilgrimage from Jalor to the shrine of Onkarnath, her cenotaph was erected here which is still standing.

Maharajah Ratan Singhji Sahib was the eldest son of Maharajah Mahesh Dasji Sahib. Popular tradition assigns to him the distinction of having boldly attacked about 1647 A.D. a mad elephant, named Kahar Koh, who had broken loose in the streets of Delhi and checked his destructive career and thus earned from the Emperor the grant of certain lands in Malwa, some of which are still comprised in the Ratlam, Sitamau and Sailana States. He made Ratlam his capital. At the desire of the Emperor about the year 1651 he accompanied Maharajah Jaswant Singhji Sahib of Jodhpur in his expedition against the combined forces of Morad and Aurangzeb. In the battle of Fatehabad near Ujjain on the 20th April 1658, he fell fighting with great valour and thus made his name immortal. His seven Ranis immolated themselves upon his funeral pile and a cenotaph erected in his honour still stands on the battle field. There is evidence to show that about this time a portion of the Ratlam State lapsed to the suzerain power, although its how and why cannot now be definitely ascertained. This explains how Sitamau, the capital of the State of that name, later on carved

out independently by Maharajah Kesho Dasji, stands on a piece of land comprised in this portion.

Maharajah Ram Singhji Sahib was the eldest son of Maharajah Ratan Singhji Sahib. He died in a fight at Daulatabad.

Maharajah Shiv Singhji Sahib was the eldest son of Maharajah Ram Singhji Sahib.

Maharajah Kesho Dasji Sahib succeeded to the *gadi* of Ratlam on the death of his brother in 1684 and ruled there from that year. About this time an officer of the Mogul Court, called Nasiruddin, was sent to collect the Zizia or poll-tax levied on all non-Mussalmans, a tax detested by the Rajputs and long in abeyance but revived by Aurangzeb in 1680. Opposition was offered and Nasiruddin was unfortunately killed.

That Kesho Dasji, who was quite young at the time, was personally concerned in his murder, there is no proof whatever, but as the Ruling Chief he was held responsible and was deposed by the Emperor who placed his uncle Chatar Sal on the *gadi*. Kesho Dasji thus found himself deprived of his lands, and it was after long residence at Delhi and a strong representation of his case that he managed to receive the Imperial grants of the three Parganas of Titrode, Nahargarh and Alot, which then yielded a revenue equal to that of Ratlam. In the year 1695 Maharajah Kesho Dasji Sahib established himself at Sitamau, and perceiving the natural advantages which the situation of the town possessed, he conceived the idea of making it the capital of his State and proceeded to lay the foundations of the rampart, afterwards completed by His Highness Rajah Raj Singhji Sahib, which still encircles the town. Maharajah Sahib Kesho Dasji's sister was married to Maharaj Kumar Sardar Singhji of Meywar. He died in the year 1748. He left two sons, Gaj Singhji and Fateh Singhji.

Maharajah Gaj Singhji Sahib was the eldest son of Maharajah Kesho Dasji Sahib. On account of the Maratha raids Gaj Singhji was obliged to move his head-quarters to Laduna, a stronger position than Sitamau.

Maharajah Fateh Singhji Sahib was the posthumous son of Maharajah Gaj Singhji Sahib. At the time of his succession Sitamau shared the fate of other Malwa States in the eighteenth century and fell under the suzerainty of Scindhia. The Marathas established their sway in this part of Malwa about the year 1750, when the Parganas of Alot and Nahargarh passed to the Chiefs of Dewas and Gwalior.

His Highness Rajah Raj Singhji Sahib who was born in 1783 succeeded to the *gadi* on the death of his father. During his rule the Generals of Scindhia and Holkar continued to ravage the State and laid waste large tracts of fertile land. At this juncture the British appeared on the scene, and Sir John Malcolm in 1820 negotiated an agreement between

Maharajah Daulat Rao Scindhia and Rajah Raj Singhji Sahib, by which the latter was confirmed in the possessions of his territory on paying a tribute of Rs. 60,000 Salim Shahi annually to the Gwalior Durbar under the British guarantee. In this agreement Scindhia pledged himself to a course of pacific non-interference; he further agreed not to send his troops to levy tribute from the Sitamau State, not to interfere in the internal management of the State, or the succession of the Chief. This agreement, which had been concluded between the Rajah and Scindhia's representative, Bapu Rao Scindhia, secured to the Chiefs of Sitamau the undisturbed possession of their hereditary lands. Repeated representations were made regarding tribute. In consideration of these and the discovery of the original Sanad a remission of Rs. 5,000 a year was made in 1860 by Maharajah Jayaji Rao Scindhia, when the Rajah's son, Maharaj Kumar Ratan Singhji, personally waited upon him. The State whose autonomous existence was thus secured has been unswervingly and staunchly loyal to the Paramount Power. During the trying times of the Mutiny in 1857 Raj Singhji remained faithful to the British Crown, and in recognition of his fidelity, friendship and attachment, a Khillat valued at Rs. 2,000 was presented to him. In 1865 the Chief agreed to cede any land that might be required for railway purposes on usual terms. In Raj Singhji's time the rampart, commenced in the days of Keshodasji, was completed, while the palace, the foundations of which had been laid by Rajah Fateh Singhji Sahib, was finished by Raj Singhji Sahib's mother, Rani Sahiba Chaoriji. On the restoration of peace Rajah Raj Singhji had removed his capital from Laduna back to Sitamau (1820). Raj Singhji Sahib was an able Ruler and was noted for his philanthropy and charity.

His Highness Rajah Bhawani Shinghji Sahib was the grandson of Rajah Raj Singhji Sahib, son of Maharaj Kumar Ratan Singhji Sahib. In the year 1881 an agreement was concluded between the Government of India and Rajah Sahib Bhawani Singhji, by which the Durbar abolished all transit duties on salt passing through Sitamau, receiving as compensation a sum of Rs. 2,000 annually.

His Highness Rajah Bahadur Singhji Sahib was the son of Thakur Takhat Singhji of Chikla (Sitamau). On the occasion of his succession, Scindhia put forward a claim to be consulted regarding the succession and also claimed the right to receive nazarana (succession dues). It was ruled, however, that Sitamau being a mediatised Chiefship of the First Class, the primary condition was not tenable, while the succession dues were payable to the British Government only and not to the Gwalior Durbar. The one year's revenue leviable under the rules on the occasion of Rajah Bahadur Singhji's succession was, in consideration of the poverty of the State,

commuted to half that sum, amounting to Rs. 35,000 (Salim Shahi). A Khillat of the value of Rs. 8,875 was bestowed on the Chief at his installation in the form of deduction from the nazarana. In February 1887, on the occasion of the Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, the Rajah Sahib abolished all transit duties in the State except those on opium and wood.

His Highness Rajah Shardul Singhji Sahib's rule was very brief. During this short period the State experienced the terrible famine of the Samvat 1956, which told heavily on the finances of the State. The Durbar was obliged to incur the heavy debt of one lakh and twenty-five thousand rupees in order to afford relief to their subjects.

His Highness Rajah Sir Ram Singhji Sahib, K.C.I.E., was born in the year 1880, being the second son of Thakur Dalel Singhji Sahib of Kachhi-Baroda. His Highness was educated at the Daly College, Indore, where he resided for nearly seven years. He next proceeded to Bharatpur to receive instructions in revenue matters from Sir Michael O'Dwyer who was then the Settlement Officer there. On the death of Rajah Shardul Singhji Sahib in 1900, His Highness was selected by the Government of India as the nearest collateral relative to succeed the deceased. His Highness was invested with full ruling powers on the 20th February 1905. In the same year His Highness was presented to Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales while at Indore. His Majesty the King-Emperor was pleased to create His Highness a Knight and decorated him with the insignia of K. C. I. E. on the occasion of the Coronation Durbar at Delhi in 1911.

In 1902 His Highness married a daughter of the Rajah Sahib of Chhota-Udaipur who died a year after. In 1903 His Highness married Her Highness Rani Sahiba Rajawatji, the daughter of the Thakur of Baleri in the Bikanir State. His Highness has three sons and two daughters. Their names are Raghubir Singhji, Govind Singhji and Raghunath Singhji, and Chand Kunwar and Kishan Kunwar.

The Rulers of Sitamau have had marriage connections with the houses of Udaipur, Lunavada, Raghogarh and Chhota-Udaipur.

His Highness personally conducts the administration of the State. The following are the extracts from the Review of the administration report of the Sitamau State for the year 1907-08 by Lieutenant-Colonel L. S. Newmarch, I. A., Political Agent in Malwa.

Rajah Ram Singh is a good specimen of a Rajput Ruler and personally supervises all the details of the administration. Being well-educated he knows that his education is never completed, and therefore he devotes much of his spare time to increasing his knowledge. He takes great interest in education generally and is especially anxious that his subjects and specially his Thakurs should get as good an education as he and they can afford. The Daly College has no better supporter on its Managing Committee.

The administration of the Sitamau State is very satisfactory, and most of the credit for this is due to His Highness the Rajah Ram Singh, who indeed deserves a larger and richer State. He is a philosopher who tries to do his duty loyally and to make the best of his surroundings.

HIS HIGHNESS THE NAWAB
SIR SIDI AHMAD KHAN SIDI IBRAHIM KHAN, G. C. I. E.,
NAWAB OF JANJIRA

THE picturesque and interesting sea-coast State of Janjira lies in the Kolaba District of the Bombay Presidency. It covers an area of 324 square miles and has a population of about 90,000. The name Janjira is a corruption of 'Jazira' or *island*. The Rajpuri creek divides the State into two sections, the northern and the southern. The coast line is forty miles long. The annual revenue is nearly six lakhs. The State is covered with spurs and hill ranges running parallel to the sea. The hill sides are clothed with thick woods and abound in fine pasture. Palm groves about the creeks on the sea-shore present a most beautiful prospect. Behind them lie salt marshes, and further beyond fertile rice fields. The Kathkaris and other hill tribes occupy the forests. Unfortunately the creeks are dangerous to boats because of the shoals at the mouth. There is room for improving communication, though much has been done in this direction by the present Nawab. Most of the streams are hill torrents dwindling into mere rills after the rains. Teak is plentiful in the forests, which are full of wild animals. The climate is moist and relaxing as in other places on the Malabar coast, but it is not unhealthly. The annual average rainfall is about 107 inches. The principal crops are rice, betel-nut and cocoa-nut. Nuts from Srivardhan are much prized and find a ready sale in the Bombay market. The cocoa-nut plantations are particularly luxuriant and fruitful, and are of great economic value. Forests are now brought under regular, control and yield a good annual return. Laterite is obtained in large quantities for building purposes. Small pearls are found in oysters fished up from the Rajpuri creek; and judging from the shells that are thrown up there is probably a good future for pearl fishery in the State. Besides the weaving of *sarees*, coarse cloth and turbans, the manufactures include coir rope, metal work, furniture, stoneware, and inferior shoes. Canals facilitate traffic on a large scale. The administration is in the hands of the Karbhari

under the orders of the Chief, subject to the supervision of the Political Agent. There is a well-organized judiciary, the Sadr Court being the highest court of appeal. The State military force consists of about forty infantry, fourteen gunners and nearly 200 irregulars. The total strength of the police is about 175. Education is imparted in seventy institutions including one English school. Medical aid is afforded in one hospital and six dispensaries. There are three municipalities. The lands have been recently surveyed and settled ; and, for purposes of revenue administration, the country is divided into three Mahals, under a Revenue Officer. Janjira generally supplies crews to the Bombay harbour boats, to the smaller coasting vessels, and to the steamships of the Peninsular and Oriental Company.

The Jafrabad State in the Kathiwar Peninsula is a dependency of Janjira. It enjoys considerable facilities for commerce, and its coasting trade is next only to that of Diu, amounting to nearly ten lakhs per annum. It is ruled, on behalf of the Nawab, by a Mamlatdar. The chief town, Jafrabad, with a population of about 7,000, has a municipality. The name, which is a contraction of Muzaffarabad, is after Sultan Muzaffar of Gujarat, who built its fortifications.

At the fort of Janjira an annual Mahomedan fair is held in November, which is attended by a very large number of visitors from the mainland. The town presents a most beautiful appearance from the sea; and its high walls rise abruptly from the water to a magnificent height of fifty feet with battlements and loopholes and ten guns arranged neatly on the bastions. On the Nanwell headland, two miles to the west of the fort, there is a lighthouse about 150 feet high to warn ships against the dangerous reef known as Chor Kassa, which is about a mile away from the headland.

In this State is found an interesting community, known as the Bani-Israil, of Jewish descent, who are monotheists, strictly avoiding the worship of idols. They retain many Jewish rites. Their costume combines the Mahomedan and Hindu styles, and their language is Mahratti. They are oil-pressers by trade ; and though fond of drink, they are an enterprising and prosperous people.

The Nawabs of Janjira belong to an Abyssinian family of Sunni Mahomedans and claim descent from Sidi Sarul Khan. (The term *Sidi* seems to be a corruption of Saiyid.) They are said to have been admirals of the Mahomedan Kings of Bijapur. There is an interesting story as to how the Abyssinian settlers first found themselves in the Janjira island. About the end of the fifteenth century, it would appear that an Abyssinian in the service of the King of Ahmadnagar disguised himself as

a merchant, and sought permission from Ram Patel, the Koli Captain, who then held the island, to land three hundred boxes. Each of these boxes contained a soldier. By this means they got possession of the island. The country then came under the Mahomedan Kings of Bijapur. When the Mahrattas rose in power, the Sidis transferred their allegiance to the Moghul Emperor, Aurangazeb, in 1670, who conferred on the Chief the title of Nawab, which has ever since been enjoyed by the rulers of Janjira. One remarkable feature about this house is that it successfully resisted the Mahrattas right through. It defied the attacks of Sivaji, of Sambhaji, and of the Peshwas. Even after the British became supreme in the Konkan, it retained a good deal of independence. It was only on account of the mal-administration of the then Chief that the British were forced in 1868 to interfere and take into their own hands the criminal and judicial administration, which has, however, been restored to the present Nawab. The relations between the British Government and the State of Janjira are regulated by the treaty of 1870.

His Highness Sir Sidi Ahmad Khan Sidi Ibrahim Khan, G. C. I. E., the present Nawab, was born in 1862, and came to the *gadi* in 1879. He is an enlightened and accomplished Prince, and was educated at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot. He knows five languages, English, Mahratti, Gujarati, Persian and Urdu. He received a practical training in civil and criminal administration under the Assistant Political Agent. He was invested with full powers in October 1883. There has been steady progress in the State all round since His Highness's accession. He has taken steps to improve communication. English and Urdu schools have been opened all over the State. Medical aid is taken to remote parts through dispensaries. Special attention has been paid to the forest administration, and every department in the State has been brought into efficient working order under the immediate care of the Nawab. He is justly popular among his subjects as an able and sympathetic ruler. His excellent administration was recognized by the Supreme Government who conferred on him the title of K. C. I. E. in 1895. Later on his salute was permanently raised from nine to eleven guns. In 1906 he was decorated with a G. C. I. E.

His Highness leads a happy family life. He has married an accomplished lady, a daughter of Mr. Haji Hassan Ali Fyzee, a brother of Mrs. Badruddin Tyabji, the wife of the late well-known and talented Judge of the High Court of Bombay. She was born in Constantinople, and has had an excellent training under her most gifted mother, who is a great Urdu-Persian scholar and writer.

Her Highness the Begam Sahiba is well versed in Persian, English, and Urdu, and also speaks Turkish and Mahratti. She is a real helpmate to her husband. She takes a keen interest in gardening. She spends her time in doing, in a very unostentatious way, a great deal of philanthropic work among her people. She is a great patron of the fine arts of this country; and speaking recently as the President of the thirteenth annual meeting of the Hindu Ladies' Club, Bombay, Her Highness exhorted the audience to encourage the ancient and unrivalled embroideries and needlework of India. A picturesque and newly-built palace is located at Janjira, the romantic and beautiful capital of the State on an island, a mile from the coast. In a poem addressed to the Begam Sahiba, the gifted Poetess, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, has thus described the place :—

Fain would I dwell in your Sea-born Kingdom,
O Fairy Queen of a Fairy Clime,
When life glides soft to a delicate measure,
With the glamour and grace of a by-gone time.
Fain would I dwell where your wild doves wander,
Your palm woods burgeon, and sea-weeds sing,
Lulled by the runs of the rhythmic waters;
In your island of Bliss it is always Spring.

The Nawab and the Begam Sahiba went on a long tour to Europe in 1908. They left Bombay on the 25th of April and proceeded straight to London, where they had a warm reception from their good friends, Mr. and Mrs. Tata, in their residence, York House, Twickenham. They had the privilege of a private audience with His late Majesty the King-Emperor Edward VII, and they were introduced to the French President, Monsieur Falliers, who was then on a visit to England. They also visited the other members of the royal family. They were invited by Viscount Morley to his country house; and Lord Lamington, a former Governor of Bombay, cordially entertained them at a large dinner party. They then went to Paris, and, after spending some time there, visited Switzerland, thence proceeded to Vienna and reached Constantinople, where they were accorded a cordial welcome. His Majesty the Sultan conferred on His Highness the first class order of *Osmanli*; on Her Highness the Begam Sahiba, that of *Shafakat Nishan*; the second order of *Shafakat Nishan* upon Miss Fyzee, the sister-in-law of the Nawab; and the *Osmanli* order of the third grade, on Mr. Ali Ashgar Fyzee, Sidi Saiyid Sardar, and Dr. Lakhani. After a pleasant trip, Their Highnesses and party returned to India on the 9th November of that year.

The State is prospering under His Highness's care, and it enjoys in full measure all the advantages of its excellent geographical position and an efficient administration.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SIR JUJHAR SINGH JU DEO BAHADUR, K. C. I. E., MAHARAJAH OF CHARKHARI

THE Charkhari State is in Central India under the Bundelkhand Political Agency, and covers an area of about 745 square miles. It has a population of about 120,000, of whom 95 per cent. are Hindus, and 5 per cent Mahomedans. 43 per cent live by agriculture, and 14 per cent. by general labour. The climate, though hot, is not unhealthy. The annual rainfall averages forty-three inches. Bundelkhandi and Banaphari are the prevailing languages. The principal crops are jowar, wheat, gram and cotton. There are some diamond mines in Ranipur, worked both by the State and by private enterprise. The State has a postal system with its own stamps. It is divided into four parganas, each in charge of a Tahsildar. The Chief exercises full administrative powers, but sentences of death or transportation for life are subject to the confirmation of the Agent to the Governor-General. The revenue of the State is more than six lakhs. British coin is the sole medium of exchange. The army consists of 140 men, who also do duty as military police. The cavalry, which forms the Maharajah's body-guard, numbers about thirty men. There are also twenty-four serviceable guns, with ninety gunners. The police, town and rural, has on its ranks nearly 400 men and officers Education is imparted in six schools. Medical aid is afforded at one hospital and dispensary. Charkhari, the headquarters of the State, commonly known as Maharajnagar, is a small picturesque town at the foot of a hill. On the hill is the fort of Mangalgarh, which is ascended by a flight of steps. After the introduction of the railway in those parts, Charkhari has become an important place of trade. In it are located a hospital and dispensary, schools for boys and girls, a British post and telegraph office, and a dak-bungalow.

The Chiefs of Chhatarpur are descended from Bir Singh Deo, the founder of the famous Bundela-Rajput family, in the thirteenth century. A descendant of his, Chhatarsal, who was the ruler of Panna in 1731,

divided his dominions into several portions, and gave away one of them yielding an annual income of thirty-one lakhs, to his third son, Jagat Raj. After the death of the latter, there was a dispute about the succession. In 1764 Pahar Singh, a son of Jagat Raj, acquired possession of the whole State assigned to his nephews, Guman Singh and Khuman Singh, Banda and Charkhari respectively. The revenue of Charkhari was then estimated at nine lakhs. Khuman Singh was the Chief of Charkhari till 1782, and after him came his son, Bijai Bikramajit Bahadur, who was always at variance with his relations, more especially with the ruler of Banda. Matters ultimately reached a crisis, and Bijai Bikramajit was driven out of the State. Nine years after, when Ali Bahadur and Himmat Bahadur went against Bundelkhand, he joined them in the hope of recovering his lost possessions. In 1798 he obtained from Ali Bahadur a sanad for Charkhari fort and territory, which gave an annual income of four lakhs. After the advent of the British, Bijai Bahadur was confirmed in his possessions. On his death in 1829, his grandson, Ratan Singh, succeeded to the *gadi*. He remained most loyal to the British during the Mutiny, and it was recognised by a grant of lands in perpetuity, which yielded annually Rs. 20,000. Further, he was offered a khillat, and honored with a hereditary salute of eleven guns. He passed away in 1860, when his minor son, Jai Singh Deo, succeeded him. He was invested with full powers in 1874, but these were withdrawn in 1880 owing to mal-administration. After Jai Singh's death, his widow adopted Malkhan Singh, a minor nine years old. The Prince attained his majority in 1894, when he was placed in full administrative charge of the State. He ruled till 1908, greatly assisted by his father, Dewan Jhujhar Singh Ju Deo, C. I. E. The Maharajah was admitted to the Order of the Knight Commander of the Indian Empire in 1902. On his dying without issue, his father, born on the 14th April 1847, was placed on the *gadi*, and he has been administering the State since.

His Highness the Maharajah Sir Jhujhar Singh Ju Deo Bahadur, K. C. I. E., though well-advanced in years, is a capable and enlightened Chief. During the time of his son he was his Chief Minister, and co-operated with him in all the reforms that were effected; so much so that when he was made ruler of the State, he had only to continue the old policy of administration. He was made a C. I. E. in 1895, and at the Delhi Durbar of 1911, His Imperial Majesty was pleased to confer on him the distinction of K. C. I. E. His full titles are :—His Highness the Maharajah Dhirajah Sipahdar-ul-mulk Sir Jhujhar Singh Ju Deo Bahadur, K. C. I. E., Maharajah of Charkhari. He is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

Charkhari, like the other collateral States, whose rulers are descended from Chhatarsal, is administered on the best Rajput traditions of chivalry large-heartedness,

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH SIR BIR SINGH DEO BAHADUR, K. C. I. E., MAHARAJAH OF SAMTHAR

SAMTHAR is a treaty State in Central India under the Bundelkhand Political Agency, with an area of about 178 square miles, and a population of 31,908. 93 per cent are Hindus and 7 per cent Mahomedans. Chamars, Brahmins, Lodhis, Kachhis, Gujars and Gadarias, are the chief castes. Bundelkhandi is the prevailing language. 33 per cent live by agriculture and 17 per cent by general labour. Two origins are given for the name, Samthar: one from Samthar or the flat country referring to the level alluvial plain which constitutes the State, the other from Shamshergarh, a name still occasionally applied to the chief town. The country is a flat plain without interesting features, and its scenery has nothing striking about it. There are no hills of any size. The Seohara Pahar is the only noteworthy eminence, and it is of local importance as the site of the temple dedicated to Kabilnathji. The water of a spring near the shrine is supposed, when sprinkled on crops attacked by blight, to cause their recovery. There are two large streams, the Pahuj and the Betwa, but rainfall is necessary for cultivation. Although, in most parts of Bundelkhand, tanks and wells are numerous, such resources are unfortunately wanting in Samthar, nevertheless the soil is rich. Among the principal crops are jowar, wheat, gram and cotton. Rice, salt, metals, kerosine oil and cloth are the imports, while the exports constitute ghee, raw leather, linseed and cotton. Animals are not common as there is no good forest or jungle to afford them cover, and the only animal that is occasionally seen is leopard. The State shares in the general conditions of Bundelkhand, experiencing greater extremes of heat and cold than the States in the high level tract of the Malwa plateau. The average rainfall is thirty inches. Though most cultivators breed cattle, and ponies to some extent, no special local breed exists. There is plenty of pasture land in all parts of the State, and

the people graze their cattle on it. The people, in general, live peacefully and well. Though the really rich are few, the standard of comfort is fair. The only mineral of importance found in the State is saltpetre, which is obtained near most villages and is collected and sent to Samthar, where it is purified and exported for sale to Bhopal and Saugor for making fireworks and country powder. Samthar, Maharajganj, Amargarh, and Lohargarh are the chief centres of trade. Coarse country cloth is woven in many villages. At the Dheri village in Maharajganj dyeing and printing are carried on, and the cloth is exported to neighbouring villages. The usual domestic articles, rough country blankets, and earthen pots are made in most places. Hindu and Jain merchants deal in cloth and grain, and Mahomedans in grain, fruits, tobacco, and miscellaneous articles. The only famines of note were those that occurred in 1896-97 and 1905. The famine of 1827 was very severe. The Durbar opened relief works and made every endeavour to assist the people. On the first occasion they spent more than Rs. 65,000, and on the second nearly two lakhs. A railway line, opened in 1888, runs through the principality. The nearest railway station to the capital is Moth, situated, at a distance of eight miles, on the Great Indian Peninsular Railway. It was only after the introduction of the railway in those parts that facilities were afforded for the exportation of grain, which had till then been used for local consumption only. Two big fairs are held annually in the State, one in honour of Kabilnathji Mahadeo at Seohara Hill, and the other known as Ram Janam, in the chief town. The latter lasts for a month when a large number of *sadhus* and fakirs congregate. The cost of the fairs, which amounts to Rs. 10,000, is borne by the Durbar.

The principal departments of the administration are the Huzur Durbar or the Chief's Office ; the Darbar-i-am or the Vazeer's Office; the Nizamat or Judicial ; Treasury ; Custom ; Education ; Forests ; Public Works ; Police; and Medical Departments. The Vazeer, under the Chief's directions, issues, from time to time, such orders and regulations as are necessary, and they have the force of law. The lowest courts are presided over by Tahsildars who exercise almost the powers of a Magistrate of the Second Clsss. The Nazim is empowered to pass sentences up to five years. The Durbar-i-am or the Vazeer's Court hears appeals from the Nazim's decisions and tries any case. The final appellate Court is the Chief Court, commonly called the Huzur Durbar.

The town of Samthar was brought into existence in the seventeenth century. The palace of the Chief, a post office, and a hospital, are located in the capital. During the reign of Maharajah Chatar Singh, a regular settlement was made in 1895, whereby the land was leased out and the revenue collected in cash in two instalments. The present

general revenue of the State is about two lakhs. There is a small military force of twelve cavalry and forty infantry; and the police numbers 200 cavalry and 500 infantry. The State maintains a jail, a post office, a hospital and five educational institutions. For administrative purposes it is divided into four parganas, Shamshergarh, Amargarh, Maharajganj and Lohargarh, each under a Tahsildar. The Maharajah, who exercises full administrative powers, controls the affairs of the Durbar aided by a Minister. Waziruddaulah Gaya Pershad, the Dewan, is in charge of the Revenue Department of the State, while the Civil and Criminal Courts are under the control of Rajah Jagat Raj Bahadur, younger brother of the Maharajah.

The Samthar ruling family is descended from the Bar-Gujar clan, one Suraj Bans being the founder. His descendants were the rulers of Panchala, Sindh, Gujarat, etc. One Deo Sut held Gujarat and Mewat. Seventh in descent from him came Ked Rae, a very powerful chief, who ruled over Gujarat when Alexander the Great invaded his dominions. Deo Sut came to terms with the Macedonian King, and a great battle was thus avoided. This statement will be found to be fully borne out by the records of Alexander's travels.

Ked Rae's descendants ruled at Lahore for nine generations, the last king being Chandra Sen, who fought with and defeated Sebuktagin and drove him back to Ghazni. Ratan Sen succeeded Chandra Sen, and his descendant in the third generation was Ram Rao Bar-Gujar, Rajah of Rajor-Deoti. Rajah Ram was killed in fighting for Prithvi Raj Chauhan, and his family then broke up into several branches ruling separate States, Anupshahar, Lidhora, Gujranwala, and Rajor-Deoti.

Rajah Ram was succeeded in Deoti by Madho Singh. He was followed by Kamod Singh, who built the town of Khatyana, and who was granted the rank of *Bist Hazari* and the title of *Maharajah* by the Emperor of Delhi. The next Chief, Chandrabhan Singh, who was attacked for not giving a daughter in marriage to the Emperor, fled to the Deccan.

He afterwards conquered the country round Irach, Kalpi, Kunch, and Bhander, and made Samthar his capital. He died at Samthar and was succeeded by Pratabhan Singh. This ruler was despoiled of most of his lands by his son, Daya Ram Singh, who was followed by Paras Ram Singh. He left three sons, Naune Shah, Surat Singh and Bhopal Singh. Naune Shah succeeded and ruled from 1725 to 1770. He had two sons, Bishan Singh who became the Chief, and Devi Singh. Devi Singh who came to the *gadi* in 1780, had three sons, Pahar Singh, Bijai Bahadur Singh, and Ranjit Singh, of whom the first two passed away while young, and the third, Ranjit Singh, succeeded.

When the British extended their power to those parts, he sought their protection and concluded a treaty with them in 1817, by which they confirmed him in his possessions. In 1827 he passed away; and his son, Hindupat, succeeded him. As he was of unsound mind, his Rani administered the State. The Chief received the usual sanad of adoption in 1862. Chatar Singh, the eldest son of Hindupat, became the ruler of Samthar in 1864. He was a capable Chief, and effected many improvements in it. According to the salt convention of 1879 with the British, he received a compensation from them for dues formerly levied. The State ceded lands in 1882 and 1884 for the Betwa canal and a railway respectively. In recognition of his successful administration, the Government of India honoured him with the personal distinction of *Maharajah*. He died in 1896, when he was succeeded by his son, the present Chief, Bir Singh Deo.

His Highness the Maharajah Sir Bir Singh Deo, K. C. I. E., born on the 26th November 1864, was invested with full administrative powers on the 7th June 1896. The personal title of *Maharajah* was conferred on him in 1898, and a gold Kaisar-I-Hind medal was presented to him in 1907. His camp at the Delhi Durbar of 1903 is thus described:—"To a student of local manners and customs, the camps of the Bundela Chiefs.........and Samthar could not fail to have been the most interesting with their curious high-walled enclosures, painted all over on the outside with the figures of soldiers and animals, pierced at intervals by small guard-houses and watch towers, and surmounted at the entrance by a lofty *naubat khana* or musicians' gallery, from which proceeded an incessant din of tom toms and drums." His Highness the Maharajah was one of the Central India Chiefs introduced to His Majesty the King-Emperor at Indore, when he visited India as Prince of Wales in 1905-06. His Highness, who was present at the last Delhi Durbar, as one of those invited by the Government of India, took part in all its functions. The event was celebrated at Samthar by the reading of the Royal Proclamation in vernacular in an open durbar held by Rajah Jagat Raj Bahadur, third brother of the Chief. Ten prisoners were released, and remission of sentences to ten more was granted on the scale laid down by the Government of India. Alms, consisting of cash, corn, and clothing, were given to the poor. A royal salute was fired; sweets were distributed to school children, and the town and public buildings were illuminated at night.

Among the conferees of the Birthday Honours in June 1915, His Highness won the well-merited distinction of K. C. I. E. The Chief is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

The State of Samthar enjoys the benefits of a good and efficient administration.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH
SIR AMAR PARKASH BAHADUR, K. C. S. I.,
RAJAH OF SIRMUR

SIRMUR is a hill State in the Punjab under the political control of the Commissioner of the Delhi Division. It has an area of 1,198 square miles, of which a third consists of forests, a tenth is available for cultivation, and a fourth lies fallow. The population is nearly 140,000. The majority of the people speak Western Pahari. In the whole of the State, it is only the Kiarda Dun Valley that is very favourable for agriculture. It was once a wilderness serving the former rulers as a refuge against foreign aggression. But during the reign of Rajah Sir Shamsher Parkash, it was colonized, and it now forms one of the richest portions of the principality. To encourage the labouring classes, the Rajah introduced the Nahan Iron Foundry in 1867. There are no irrigation wells or canals. Springs and torrents water the tracts, and the rainfall also is seasonable. The important crops raised in the valley are wheat, gram, rice, maize, sugar-cane, ginger, tobacco and turmeric. There are valuable forests yielding annually about a lakh of rupees to the Durbar. As is generally the case on the hills, the cattle are small but strong. The State maintains a pony and a donkey stallion at Paonta. Though several kinds of minerals are said to exist in it, there are now at work only two ochre mines. In some of the streams, gold is washed down at times. Wooden vessels, churns, blankets and coarse cotton cloth, and some cane furniture constitute the industries. The exports are wheat, maize, gram and timber; and the imports are cloth, utensils, sugar, salt, drugs, and other articles of European and Indian manufacture.

For administrative purposes the State is divided into four tahsils, each under a Tahsildar. The highest appellate authority is vested in the Rajah, who is the President of the State Council, which contains five members of his own nomination. The court, known as the Ijlas-i-Khas, is presided over by the Rajah himself, exercising unlimited jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters. Appeals against the decisions of his Court are disposed of by the

State Council. Capital sentences are subject to the confirmation of the Commissioner of Delhi. The army consists of 35 cavalry, and 240 infantry, with two serviceable guns. The Imperial Service Corps of Sirmur Sappers and Miners has a good record of service done in the Tirah Campaign of 1897, under the command of Major Bir Bikram Singh, C.I.E. Peace is preserved by a police force of nearly 150 officers and men. In the jail at Nahan, Persian carpets, floorcloths and mats are manufactured. Education is imparted in one secondary, four primary, and five elementary private schools. There are two hospitals at the capital, Nahan, and six dispensaries. The revenue of the State is more than six lakhs. The Chief is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

Nahan is situated on the outer Himalayas, at an elevation of 3,207 feet, and has a population of about 6,500. It has been the residence of the Chiefs since 1621. On the western portion of the town is the Shamsher cantonment, where the State troops are garrisoned. Nahan is a municipality. In 1881 Rajah Sir Shamsher Parkash built the Shamsher Villa, after the Italian model,on a spur,east of the capital. The Chaur peak, with an elevation of 11,982 feet above the sea-level, forms the highest summit among the mountains occupying the sub-Himalayan tracts. An observatory is also constructed on the mountain. During the rainy season fever prevails in the Dun Valley; but, in other respects, the country is healthy, and the climate temperate. The average rainfall is about sixty inches.

There is no authentic information regarding the early history of Sirmur. The present ruling family is an offshoot of that of Jaisalmir. It would appear that the original rulers belonged to the solar race and had their capital at Sirmur, a village now in ruins. A prince of this house promised a rope-dancer one half of his kingdom if she should walk along a rope to and fro across the river Giri. When the woman was about to succeed, one of the courtiers cut the rope, and she perished. Immediately a flood came down and swept away the king and all his kin, and the country was without a ruler. A prince of the house of Jaisalmir was just then on a visit to Hardwar as a pilgrim, and he was invited by a minstrel to take up the sovereignty. A force was accordingly sent under his son, the Rawal, or Prince Sobha. He put down disorder and became the ancestor of the present ruling family with the title of Subhans Parkash. Kalsi was his capital. The eighth in descent from him conquered Ratesh about the middle of the twelfth century, and during the days of his successor, Jubbal, Balsan, Kumharsain, Kot, Ghond, and Theog were over-run, and most of these principalities became Feudatory States. The dominions of Sirmur extended up to the Sutlej. From the far-off Kalsi in Dehra Dun, the Rajah could not exercise efficient

control over the northern parts. Accordingly the capital was changed to Hath Koti on the confines of Jubbal, Rewain and Sahri. One of his descendants, Karm Parkash, removed it to Nahan in 1621. His successor, Mandhata, was called on to assist Kahlil-ullah, the General of the Emperor Shah Jahan, against Garhwal. Later on Sobhag Parkash, who succeeded Mandhata, obtained Kotaha as a reward for his service. He assisted Aurangzeb also against Garhwal, and received Kolagarh from him. He was successful in the administration of the country and took steps to improve agriculture. Pinjaur was recovered by Budh Parkash from the Moghul Emperor. Guru Govind, the great Sikh Reformer, also found an asylum at Sirmur during the days of Rajah Mit Parkash, and it was with his help that the Guru was able to defeat at Bhangani the combined forces of Kahlur and Garhwal in 1688. In the middle of the eighteenth century Kirat Parkash defeated the Rajah of Garhwal, captured Naraingarh, Morni, and Pinjaur from the Sikhs, and entered into a treaty with Amar Singh of Patiala, whom he assisted against his rebellious Wazir. When Ghulam Kadir Khan, the Rohilla Chief, invaded Kahlur, Kirat Parkash assisted the Rajah of that State. Again, he rendered valuable aid to the Rajah of Garhwal against the Gurkhas and forced them to accept the Ganges as the boundary of their dominions. The days of his son, Dharam Parkash, were also full of troubles. He had to defend the country against the encroachments of the Chief of Nalagarh, and the invasion of the Rajah of Garhwal. Finally, he died, it is said, in a single combat with the Rajah Sansar Chand of Kangra, who invaded Kahlur in 1793. His successor, Karam Parkash, was a weak ruler, and there was a serious revolt in the country. The Gurkhas had to be called in to put it down. They succeeded in expelling Ratan Prakash who had been set up as a ruler by the rebels, but they refused to restore the country to Karam Parkash. His Rani then appealed to the British for aid just at the time when the Gurkha war was about to break out. A British force was accordingly sent into Sirmur to expel the Gurkhas. After the close of the Gurkha war, Fateh Parkash, the minor son of Karam Parkash, was placed on the throne. The British took over some of the territories east of the Jumna, which they, however, restored to the State in 1833 for a payment of Rs. 50,000. The State has since then been most loyal and friendly to the British government. For the first Afghan war the Rajah helped the Company with a loan, and in the first Sikh war a contingent of troops from Sirmur fought on the side of the British at Hari-ka-pattan. Rajah Sir Shamsher Parkash, G.C.S.I., was the ruler from 1856 to 1898. He rendered valuable help to the English at the time of the Mutiny. He was a successful Chief. He introduced many important measures of reform in the administration and improved the State in several other ways.

Forced labour was abolished, roads were laid, revenue and forest settlements were undertaken, and dispensaries were opened.

Rajah Sir Surendra Bikram Parkash Bahadur, K.C.S.I., born in November 1867, came to the *gadi* in 1898. He was the forty-sixth lineal descendant from Rajah Subhans, who conquered Sirmur in 1095. He had experience in the administration during his father's life-time, having served the Durbar in various capacities. He actually ruled over the principality when his father was ill for more than two years. In recognition of his capacity as an administrator and of his unflinching loyalty to the British Throne, the distinction of K. C. S. I. was conferred on him in 1901 He was a member of the Supreme Legislative Council for five years. His. Highness passed away at Mussoorie on the 11th July 1911.

His son and successor, Rajah Amar Parkash, was born in 1887. In 1909 he married the eldest daughter of Maharajah Deb Shamsher Jung Bahadur Rana, ex-Prime Minister of Nepaul. The young prince has had judicial and revenue experience, having worked as a Magistrate for some years and also as Vice-President of the Municipality. During the illness of his father, he was in sole charge of the State. On the 26th October 1911, he was installed on the *gadi* by Sir Louis Dane, the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjaub, when His Honour recalled the fact that he had been present in that very hall thirteen years ago, when Sir Mackworth Young invested the late Rajah with full powers and paid a tribute to his administrative abilities and work as a ruler, and he expressed the hope that his son, the present Rajah, would have an equally honourable and distinguished career. The Mir Munshi to the Punjaub Government then brought in a khilat, a pearl and jewelled necklace, a crest gem for the turban, a silk bag containing coins, a robe of honour, and other valuable articles, and His Honour decorated the Rajah with his own hands. His Highness made a suitable reply, in which he assured the gathering that he would follow in the foot-steps of his ancestors. The same afternoon, the Lieutenant-Governor laid the foundation stone of the Surendra Water Works Reservoir. Prominent among the several boons granted by the Chief in commemoration of his installation is free primary education throughout his State

His Highness has begun his rule under very good auspices, and should do well and leave his mark on the administration.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH
BIJAI CHAND
RAJAH OF BILASPUR

BILASPUR, one of the ancient Himalayan Hill States in the Punjaub, covers an area of 448 square miles and has a population of about 100,000. The country is slightly hilly and undulating. The Sutlej passes through the State. The climate is temperate. Agriculture forms the main occupation of nearly 80 per cent. of the people. The State is also known by the name of Kahlur, from a fort of that name built by one of the former rulers, Kahal Chand. The capital was changed to Bilaspur in the middle of the seventeenth century, during the days of Dip Chand. It is a beautifully situated town on both banks of the Sutlej. The palace and other State buildings are above the river. The town lies around a fine green *maidan*. The Chief exercises full powers, and is assisted in the administration by a Wazir. Near Fatehpur, there is a spring called Lund in Dadrana, the waters of which are supposed to have medicinal properties. The revenue of the State is about two lakhs. Opium, tobacco, ginger, and the ordinary grains make up the principal products. There is a small military force consisting of twelve cavalry and nearly 200 infantry, with two field guns. The Rajah enjoys a salute of eleven guns.

According to a Banswara (or family history) of the Chiefs of Bilaspur, they are said to have had a mythological origin. They are descendants of Sissapal of the Mahabharata. The account is that when Hari Har Chand, the seventeenth of this line, was greatly reduced in possessions, he sought the help of the goddess Jowala Mukhi in the Kangra Valley. His youngest son, Govind, got a kingdom in the Deccan, while four other sons were with their father. They had a quarrel with the Rajah of Kangra in connection with the *svayambara* of his daughter. This resulted in a battle, in which many were killed on both sides. Among the survivors, Bir Chand, Kabir Chand, and Ghambir Chand, three of the sons of Hari Har Chand, became the rulers of Kahlur, Kumaon, and Chamba respectively.

It was Rajah Kahal Chand (894-902), who built Kot Kahlur, which subsequently gave its name to the State. The ruling families of Nalagarh are descended from Ajit Chand, the eldest son of Kahn Chand, the eleventh in descent from Bir Chand. The present Rajput Jaghirdars in Bilaspur have come of Sangar Chand, the sixteenth in the line, who was ruler at the beginning of the thirteenth century. One of his successors, Rattan Chand, was a favourite of the court of Delhi, and the Emperor gave him a reward of a lakh and a quarter of rupees for slaying a lion. In 1633 Dip Chand was the Rajah of the State, and he built the town of Bilaspur close to the cave of Byasji on the Sutlej. For his services to Aurangzeb, he received a khillat of five lakhs of rupees and a sanad conferring suzerainty over twenty-two neighbouring principalities. His son, Bhim Chand, completely routed the Mians who began to claim the State with him, and after defeating the Rajahs of Bashahr, Mandi, and Kotkhai, he even defied the imperial forces in alliance with Guru Govind Singh. In his last years he became an ascetic and abdicated the throne in favour of his son, Ajmir Chand, who became the thirty-fifth Rajah. The days of Ajmir Chand and his son, Devi Chand, were spent in putting down the feudatory princes who gave them a great deal of trouble, until, by the end of 1790, most of them became independent. Mahan Chand, the son of Devi Chand, ruled from 1778 to 1824. He spent his time in wars against the Rajahs of Nalagarh and Kangra and the Sodhis of Anandpur. He was succeeded by his son, Kharakh Chand, who died childless. Mian Jangi or Rajah Jaggat Chand was the next ruler. His reign was uneventful, but for the rebellion on behalf of a supposed child of Rajah Kharakh Chand, which was put down with the aid of the British Government. The golden age of Bilaspur was the long administration of Rajah Hira Chand. It was he that organized the State with the help of an able Wazir, Mian Bhangi Purgnia. The five years' rule of his son and successor, Amar Chand, was peaceful, and he was succeeded by his son, the present Chief, Rajah Bijai Chand. The Mians began to give him trouble in 1901, and the Rajah withdrew to Benares. The Government of India stepped in and appointed Rai Sahib Amar Singh as Manager. Order was restored, and the management of the State began to be conducted as in British districts. The Rajah then returned, and resumed the rule of the State, assisted by the Rai Sahib. At the Delhi Durbar of 1911, His Imperial Majesty was pleased to confer on His Highness the Rajah Bijai Chand the distinction of C. S. I.

HIS HIGHNESS THE NAWAB SIR AHMAD ALI KHAN BAHADUR, K. C. S. I., NAWAB OF MALER KOTLA (PUNJAB)

The Mahomedan cis-Sutlej State of Maler Kotla, which is 167 square miles in extent and has a population of 80,000, lies forty-five miles north of Umbala, adjoining the Phulkian States of Patiala, Nabha, and Jind. It is under the political control of the Political Agent of the Bahawalpur Combined Agency. The revenue of the State is Rs. 12,50,000. The country is an unbroken level plain varied by sand-drifts and ridges. Though the Bhatinda branch of the Sirhind Canal passes through the northern part of the State and the Kotla Branch passes touching its southern borders, the State does not get irrigation from them. The population is equally divided among the three communities of Mahomedans, Sikhs and Hindus. The chief town, Maler Kotla, is thirty miles south of Ludhiana and forty-nine miles north of Umbala. It contains about 30,000 people. The city comprises two distinct parts, Maler and Kotla, connected by the Motibazar line. Maler is a very old town founded by Rajah Malher about 2,000 years ago and rebuilt in 1466 by Sadr-ud-Din, the founder of the present ruling house. The town of Kotla was built by Bayazid Khan, in the middle of the seventeenth century. The chief products of the State are cotton, sugar, opium, tobacco, garlic and grain. The army consists of 100 Cavalry, 300 Infantry, 200 Imperial Service Sappers and 50 Artillery, besides a State Band of 50 men. There are eight serviceable guns. The cantonment lies outside the capital. The Imperial Service Troops were raised in 1894 and have since been on active service in the Tirah Campaign of 1897-98 and in China 1900-01. Besides the troops there are also 200 Police. There is a High School in the Maler Kotla City and a Middle School at Ahmadgarh, a town twelve miles from Maler Kotla. Besides this the State has many Primary Schools.

At Maler Kotla there is a factory for the manufacture of survey instruments and a cotton ginning and pressing factory. Paper manufacture is also carried on. There are also two Flour Mills and an Ice Factory. Maler Kotla is a good trading centre.

Sheikh Sadr-ud-Din, the founder of the family, came from Cabul about the end of the fifteenth century. He married a daughter of the Afghan Emperor, Bahlol Lodhi, of Delhi, and obtained as dowry a territory in the Province of Sirhind.

The fifth in descent from him was Bazid Khan, who was in high favour with the Emperor Alamgir. It was he who built the town of Kotla. During the days of the disintegration of the Moghul Empire, Maler Kotla, like many other subordinate States, became independent. In 1732 Jamal Khan, the other Chief of Maler Kotla, helped the Imperial Troops against Ala Singh of Patiala; and, later, in 1761, he joined the troops of Ahmad Shah Abdulla Durrani against the Sikh rulers of the Punjab. This brought about a long-standing feud between Maler Kotla and the adjoining Sikh States, notably that of Patiala. Bhikan Khan, the son of Jamal Khan, suffered heavily from the attacks of the Sikhs, and was finally forced to enter into a treaty with them. The rulers of Maler Kotla thus became friendly with those of the adjoining State of Patiala, whom they often assisted in difficulties. The Patiala Chief helped the Nawab in 1787, when the Chief of Bhadaur unlawfully took possession of some of his villages, and, in 1794 again, in the fanatic attacks of Bedi Sahib Singh, a descendant of Baba Nanak, the Sikh Guru and his forces, against the Chief of Maler Kotla. At the beginning of the last century, in the campaigns of General Lake against the Mahrattas, the Nawab of Maler Kotla joined the British. The State formally came under British protection in 1809. This saved it from the encroachments of Ranjit Singh, who had to be actually turned back from the State in 1808 by the marching of a British force under Colonel Ochterlony. In 1862 the usual sanad of adoption was granted to the Ruler of Maler Kotla, and, in accordance with it, the late Nawab, Mahomed Ibrahim Ali Khan Bahadur, was adopted in 1871 from a collateral branch of the family and placed on the *gadi*. As His Highness showed signs of mental weakness, his son, Sahibzada Ahmad Ali Khan, the heir-apparent, carried on the administration as Regent, and, on the death of his father in 1908, succeeded him as Ruler. He was formally invested with full powers on the 5th January 1909. He was born on the 10th September 1881, and has had his education at the Aitchison Chiefs' College, Lahore. He was invited for the Coronation Durbars of 1903 and 1911, and went to Lahore to meet Their Imperial Majesties when they visited India in 1906 as Prince and Princess of Wales. He has a son and heir who is ten years old and three younger sons. His Highness is entitled to a salute of eleven guns. Among the conferees of the Birthday Honours on the 3rd June 1915, His Highness won the distinction of K. C. S. I. He is an energetic and promising ruler and takes a keen interest in the administration of the State and in the welfare of his subjects.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH UDAI SINGH BAHADUR RAJAH OF JHABUA

Occupying a portion of *Rath*, as the western part of *Malwa* plateau is generally known, is the mountainous State of Jhabua, in Central India, covering an area of 1,336 square miles. The major portion of the country is traversed by parallel ranges of hills running north and south and clothed with rich forest. A number of streams forming the tributary of the Mahi flow through the State. The whole tract may be roughly divided into two sections, the Mahidhawa, or the tract along the Mahi, and the Ghata, or the hilly portion. Only a tenth of the whole area is under cultivation, and a much smaller portion enjoys the benefits of irrigation. The climate is subject to extremes, and the average rainfall does not exceed thirty inches. Of the entire population which is a little over 80,000, about a fifth only are Hindus, the rest being Animists, chiefly Bhils. Nearly two-thirds of the people live by agriculture. The mineral resources of the country seem to be great, but they have not yet been prospected and worked. The manganese works in the Rambhapur pargana ar under the management of a Bombay firm, the ore being carried by means of a light tramway from the Meghnagar station, on the Ratlam-Godhra section of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway. The State, on the whole, is remote from all influences of civilization, and its industrial and commercial development is, therefore, very slow. More then 70 per cent of the State lands are held in fief by the Umraos or families of nobles, who pay a tribute of Rs. 5,000 to the Jhabua Durbar, and Rs. 7,510 to Holkar. For administrative purposes the principality is divided into four tahsils. The Chief exercises criminal powers, intermediate between those of a District Magistrate and a Sessions Judge. In executive administration, he is assisted by a Minister. The Agency Surgeon looks after the medical establishment in the three dispensaries of the State, and the forests are managed by the Agency Forest Officer. The decision of the Chief in all civil matters is final, but the administration of justice in criminal suits is largely controlled by the Political Agent. A

regular police of nearly 100 men, and a rural police of 425 are under a Chief Inspector. A small irregular force with two serviceable guns is also maintained, which generally assists in police work. There is a jail at Jhabua. The palace is surrounded by a mud wall with masonry bastions. The first school was opened in 1854 ; and there are now nearly twenty institutions, under public or private management, one of which is a mission school at Thandla, established in 1900. The capital, situated on the edge of a small lake, called the Bahadur-Sagar, is eleven miles from the Meghnagar station. It takes its name from a Chief, named Jhabbu Naik, a freebooter of the Labhana caste, who founded the State in the sixteenth century. The town contains the usual public buildings, such as a dispensary, a post office, a jail, a school, a guest-house, and the palace of the Chief. The revenue of the State is nearly two lakhs.

The present ruling house is descended from Bir Singh, the fifth son of Jodha, the founder of Jodhpur. It is a family of Rathor Rajputs. A member of it rose to favour at the court of Delhi, and about 1584 he obtained Badnawar in Malwa in fief. One of his successors, Kesho Das, was attached to the retinue of Prince Salim (Emperor Jahangir). He was employed to subdue the freebooters of the south-western districts of Malwa, and when he conquered them, he took possession of their tracts. He was invested with the insignia of nobility in 1607. But he was poisoned by his son and heir, and the Jhabua State was,in consequence, thrown into great confusion and internal disturbance. All through the eighteenth century, these tracts were harassed much by the Mahrattas ; and, about the year 1723, Holkar nominally took the management of the country,which seems to have yielded very little revenue at the time. During the settlement of Malwa by Sir John Malcolm, the State was guaranteed to the present rulers. Rajah Gopaul Singh was the Chief from 1840 to 1894. Though he was only seventeen years of age at the time of the Mutiny, he made himself most useful to the British by assisting the fugitives from Bhopawar. In recognition of his services, he was presented with a khilat of Rs. 12,500 in value. In 1871, through the intercession of the Supreme Government, the territorial disputes between Indore and Jhabua were settled, and the Thandla pargana was given to Jhabua, the Indore State getting an annual contribution of 4,350 rupees. In 1894 Gopaul Singh died and was succeeded by his adopted son, the present ruler, His Highness the Rajah Udai Singh Bahadur. He was invested with full powers in 1898 and is entitled to a salute of eleven guns. The Rajah was one of the Central India Chiefs introduced to Their Imperial Majesties at Indore, when they visited this country in 1905 as Prince and Princess of Wales. As a Ruler he has given satisfaction to all the Political Officers and is much loved and respected by the people.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH
BRIJ INDAR SINGH BAHADUR
RAJAH OF FARIDKOT

The Sikh State of Faridkot, 643 square miles in extent, in the Punjaub, lies adjacent to the British District of Ferozepur and to the Phulkian States with which it is connected by origin. Four detached villages that lie outside the State belong to it. The total population is more than 120,000, and the revenue comes to about five lakhs. The country is made up of two separate parts: the Athar, a sandy tract of low fertility, and the Utar of a higher level, separated from each other by the Danda, or the old bank of the Sutlej. The water-level lying from 90 to 160 feet below the surface, there are no irrigation wells; but the soil absorbs moisture easily, and produces crops even with very slight rain. The water in the Athar is generally saline, and therefore not useful for cultivation. The Utar section is irrigated by the Sirhind canal. As shooting is prohibited, there are many wild animals. The climate is hot and dry. It would appear that the tract comprised by the Faridkot State was once in the possession of Ponwar Rajputs, who were subsequently supplanted by the descendants of Jasal, the founder of the Jaisalmir State.

More than seven hundred years ago, one of the rulers of this family, Mokalsi, founded a town and erected a fort there, and wanted to name it Mokal Har, after him. But it came to be called Faridkot for the following reason. While the fort was being built, a man, named Shaikh Farid, who possessed miraculous powers, was unwittingly made to work as a forced labourer. When the mistake was found out, he was at once let go, and after the completion of the work the fort was named after him. The grandsons of Mokalsi, Tulsi Ram and Khalcha, became converts to Mahomedanism. Tulsi Ram's son, Bharo, abandoned Faridkot and repaired first to Bilaspur and later to Hathur; while Khalcha's descendants were left in possession of Faridkot. The last of the Mahomedan progeny of Khalcha, Isa Khan, came into conflict with the Moghuls and lost his life in a battle. Then Bate Rao, of

the line of Jundhar, one of the early rulers, became Chief. He was the common ancestor of the Phulkian houses and the Faridkot family. One of his successors, Khiwa, married a Jat woman, and their descendants were looked upon as Jats, as was the custom at the time. Barar the eighth in descent from Khiwa, was a brave man and waged constant war with the Mahomedan Bhattis of Sirsa; hence Barar became a permanent name with all his successors. The Faridkot family traces its origin from Dul, the elder son of Barar, and the Phulkian houses sprang from Paor, the younger son.

During the time of Akbar, Bhallan, one of the successors of Dul, became very powerful and influential. A nephew of his, Kapura, who came after him, founded the town of Kot Kapura. He was known for his justice and benevolence. His fidelity to the Moghul throne was so great that he refused assistance even to Guru Govind against it. His successors prospered in their family possessions until the end of the eighteenth century. In the days of Mohr Singh, who came to the *gadi* in 1782 and who was a most inefficient ruler, the country was exposed to constant civil wars. In 1808 Maharajah Ranjit Singh wanted to confer the Faridkot territory on his General, Diwan Mohkam Chand, but the British intervened and restored the tracts to the rightful ruler, Gulab Singh and his brothers. Owing to the minority of the Chief and the consequent family quarrels, the interests of the State were totally neglected. The lands were abandoned and the revenue reached the low figure of Rs. 6,000. About 1827 the infant ruler, Attar Singh, died suddenly, and the British recognized the claims of his uncle, Sardar Pahar Singh. He was a capable Chief and did his utmost to restore the State to its former condition. His reputation as a just and liberal-minded Prince induced many families to immigrate from the adjoining tracts of Lahore and Patiala. During the Sikh war of 1845, Pahar Singh remained loyal to the English, and, as a reward, got a half share out of the portion confiscated from the Rajah of Nabha, worth about Rs. 35,000 per annum. He was given the title of Rajah, with certain privileges and concessions. He died in 1849, and was succeeded by his son, Rajah Wazir Singh. He was as able as his father and remained equally faithful to the British. For his valuable services during the Mutiny, he received the honorary title of *Burar Bans Rajah Sahib Bahadur*, a valuable khilat, and a salute of eleven guns. The State flourished under him, and several reforms were introduced in his time. On his death in 1874, he was succeeded by his son, Rajah Bikram Singh, a very able and highly educated Chief. He brought the administration up to British standards by securing the services of retired British officers. The Sirhind canal was taken into the State, and it had a remarkable effect on the

revenue, increasing it by nearly a lakh per annum. Many reforms were introduced; a land settlement was undertaken; the capital was beautified by the addition of several buildings; many Sikh temples were built; and a contingent of Imperial Service Troops was raised. He helped the British Government with troops during the Afghan war. In appreciation of his efficient administration and loyalty, the hereditary titles of *Farzand-i-Saadat Nishan Hazrat Kaisar-I-Hind* were bestowed on him and his heirs.

He had two sons, Balbhir Singh and Gajaindar Singh. He passed away in 1898 and was succeeded by his elder son, Balbhir Singh. Immediately after his accession there was the great famine of 1899, and the Chief did everything in his power to help the people, by opening up relief works and by selling corn at cheap rates. Balbhir Singh closely followed in the footsteps of his father. He put up many new and important buildings. The cantonment lines were renewed; a clock-tower was constructed to commemorate the memory of Queen Victoria; a new Raj Mahal was erected; and the Middle School was raised to the High School standard. The Rajah took special interest in promoting horse and cattle breeding in the State. On his death in 1906, he was succeeded by his nephew the present Chief, Rajah Brij Indar Singh, the elder of the two sons of Gajaindar Singh, who died in 1900.

The prince was nearly ten years of age at the time of his accession, having been born on the 26th October 1896. The administration of the State is carried on by a Council of Regency with Sardar Baha ur Sardar Dayal Singh Man, a member of a well-known historic family of Sikh Chiefs, as President. He belongs to the oldest or chiefest of all the Jat tribes of the Panjaub. The family of Dayal Singh is closely related to the houses of Ranjit Singh and the Phulkian Chiefs. The Sardar has a great reputation as an administrator. He is an officer of the Punjaub Provincial Service, lent to the Faridkot State. His name is found on the Birthday Honours list of the 3rd June 1913, as the recipient of a Kaisar-I-Hind gold medal. Many useful reforms have already been introduced, and the administration of the Council of Regency is much appreciated by the Supreme Government and by the people of Faridkot.

The young Prince is being educated at the Aitchison College Lahore. His marriage was celebrated on a grand scale in February 1911, when the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjaub and the high officers of the State were present. His Highness is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

The State is making rapid progress under the able control of Sardar Dayal Singh Man; and when in due course the young Prince takes up the administration, he will not only inherit the State in an improved form but also have the noble examples of Regent Sardar Dayal Singh Man, and his own father and grandfather to guide him.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH
BHIM SAIN
RAJAH OF SUKET

THE State of Suket in the Punjaub, a tract of land about thirty-five miles in length and ten to twelve in breadth, lies in a bend of the Sutlej river and extends from the village of Farenu to Dehar, east and west. It measures nearly 420 square miles in area, and has a population of about 60,000. The country comprises two distinct parts : the Balh, in the basin of the Beas, a fertile plain, and the Karsog near the Sutlej, a mountainous tract, broken up by a series of valleys. The highest peak is the Choasi hill. At the village of Drahat, on the bank of the Sutlej, there are two hot springs, one in the bed of the river itself, and the other, at the foot of a hill, half a mile away. Pilgrims, in large numbers, resort to these *Tiraths* as they are called. The climate is mild and agreeable, and the rainfall is evenly distributed. Rice, poppy, maize and wheat, constitute the chief crops. An experimental tea-garden is maintained by the State at Buned. The people being comparatively uncivilized, agriculture is in a primitive condition. At the annual cattle fair held in the capital nearly 2,000 animals change hands. The revenue, which comes to about two lakhs, is taken in kind generally. The fertility of the soil assures them of a good crop with little toil. Famine is almost unknown, and there is no need in the country for either towns or trade centres. There was some distress in 1893-94, and an epidemic among the cattle broke out in 1899. On these occasions, the State opened up relief works and advanced money to the tenants. The administration is entirely in the hands of the Chief himself, who has full civil and revenue powers, and who, in criminal cases, exercises the powers of a Sessions Judge. There is a small military force with a police of nearly a hundred men. A jail, a dispensary,and four schools are the only public institutions. At Pangna there is a fine well-preserved fort, said to have been erected by Rajah Bir Sain, besides various other smaller forts scattered in the country in picturesque situations. The temple of Mahunag in Karsog is visited by pilgrims, It is said that those bitten by

snakes are cured by a pilgrimage to this place. They go to the temple and simply lie down there.

The family of the Rajah is an ancient one, having come over to these tracts from Bengal, about eight centuries ago. Authentic information regarding the history of the house is not available, but it is probable that it might have had a career similar to that of the other hill States. In 1837 Bikrama Sain was the Rajah of Suket. He was succeeded by his son, Uggar Sain, who seems to have been pretty influential during his time. He assisted the Rajah of Kahlur with a loan of Rs. 25,000 when his subjects revolted against him, and he also wished to bring about a reconciliation between the people and their ruler, who, however, died during the negotiations. The Sikh durbar at Lahore despatched a force to arrest the rulers of Suket, Kahlur and Mandi in 1841, but Uggar Sain was prudent enough to submit and effect a compromise, whereas the States of Mandi and Kahlur were annexed by the Sikhs. By the treaty of Lahore in 1846, Suket was guaranteed to Uggar Sain and his descendants. He received the usual sanad of adoption in 1862. After a long and successful reign, he passed away in 1875, when his son, Rudra Sain, succeeded him He got into a serious conflict with his subjects, and the Commissioner of Jullundur was sent to enquire into the matter. The Raja was not satisfied with the result of the enquiry, and he quietly repaired to Lahore. Later on he changed his residence to Hoshiarpur, where he died in 1887. He was formally deposed in 1879 and his eldest son, Ari Mardan Sain, succeeded him, with a brother and an uncle of his father as guardian and manager respectively. The young Prince, however, died in 1880, and the State passed to his brother, Dusht Nikandan Sain, who was then a boy of fourteen years. In 1882 he married a niece of the Rajah of Bhagal. The State was managed, till he came of age in 1893, by Messrs. Donald and Halifax in succession.

His Highness the Rajah Dusht Nikandan. Sain was an energetic and enlightened ruler. During his time the administration improved in several ways. The old debts were cleared off, and the finances were placed on a sound footing. A dispensary was opened at Sadr, and a school at Bhojpur. Communications were improved, and several public buildings were constructed, including sepoy lines and a jail. A new palace was put up. Two bridges across the Sutlej were completed. On the 27th May 1908, he was succeeded by his son, the present Chief, His Highness the Rajah Bhim Sain, born on the 26th November 1885. He is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH NARIENDAR SHAH BAHADUR RAJAH OF TEHRI

ON the confines of the British districts of Dehra Dun and Garhwal is the Himalayan Hill State of Tehri (or Tehri-Garhwal) under the political control of the Government of the United Provinces. Its area is about 4,200 square miles, and it has a population of nearly 300,725 scattered over one town and 2,455 villages, giving a density of about 64 to a square mile. The people are mostly Hindus. The language spoken is Garhwali. Rajputs, Brahmins, and Doms predominate. The Doms and Khasias are considered indigenous inhabitants, and the Rajputs and Brahmins, immigrants. Nearly 90 per cent. live by agriculture. The tracts are made up of series of tangled ridges, separated by narrow valleys, generally running north-east to south-west. The State contains the sources of the Ganges and the Jumna, the former rising in a glacier, called Gaumukh, at a height of about 13,570 feet. At its source it is known as the Bhagirathi. At Bhaironghati it is joined by Jadhganga or Jahnavi, and the combined stream is called the Ganges. The State is separated from the British district of Garhwal by the Alaknanda and the Ganges. The Jumna takes its rise at Bandarpunch, and, lower down, forms the western boundary of the State. The Supin is another river of importance. The tracts generally are exposed to great extremes of temperature, the snow-falls of winter reaching an elevation of 4,000 feet. Cultivation is confined to the terraces on the hill-sides and to small alluvial areas. Only a very small portion is brought under cultivation. Rice and wheat are the staple products. Potatoes also are largely grown. The forests are valuable and yield an annual revenue of nearly two lakhs. A portion of the forests, about 140 square miles in extent, has been leased out to the British Government. The chief exports are timber, forest produce, rice and potatoes, the imports being piece-goods, sugar, salt, iron, brass vessels, pulses, spices and oil. Borax and salt come from Tibet. Tanning and blanket-weaving on a small scale, are the only

industries. Means of communication are few, there being less than 500 miles of road ; and merchandise is carried on by pack animals and coolies.

The Chief exercises full powers. The Commissioner of Kumaun is the Political Agent. The Wazir is the principal executive officer. The Rajah alone passes sentences of death. The State owns all proprietary right in the land, except in the case of the Saklana fief. The Rajah's palace and the usual courts, offices and jail, constitute the public buildings. A unit of Imperial Service Sappers, with two cannon used on ceremonial occasions, is all the army maintained by the State. There is a police force to keep the peace, but the rural police under village headmen do the main work. Six hospitals and about twenty-one schools are the other public institutions of utility. Vaccination is popular. There is a feudatory estate under Tehri, known as the Saklana estate, about seventy square miles in area. The Muafidars owning it pay an annual quit-rent of Rs. 200, and exercise the powers of second-class Magistrates. The ancestors of the present Muafidars rendered valuable assistance to the British during the Gurkha war. The capital town, Tehri, at the junction of the Bhagirathi and the Bheling, is about 2,278 feet above the sea-level and has a population of nearly 3,500. It is a great commercial centre and has several temples and *dharmsalas*. It has also a high school. During the summer season the Rajah resides at Pratapnagar, nine miles from Tehri at an elevation of about 8,000 feet.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century, when Parduman Shah was the ruler, the Gurkhas were giving trouble and, in one of the conflicts, he was killed. After the close of the first Gurkha war in 1815, his son, Sudarshan Shah, received the present tracts from the East India Company. He continued to rule over the State until 1859, and during the trying days of the Mutiny, he rendered valuable assistance to the British Government. He was succeeded by his son, Bhawani Shah, who was in charge of the State until 1872. His son, Rajah Pratap Shah, managed the affairs of the durbar till 1887. His Highness the Rajah Sir Kirti Shah, born on the 20th January 1874, succeeded him. During his minority the State was administered by a Council of Regency, presided over by his mother, Maharani Ghuleriajee Sahiba. The Chief was educated at the Mayo College, Ajmer. He was invested with full powers in 1890. He married a grand-daughter of the late Maharajah Jung Bahadur of Nepal. He was made a C. S. I in 1899, and a K. C. S. I. in 1903. A son and heir was born to him on the 3rd August 1898. For some years the Rajah Saheb was a member of the Legislative Council of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh. His Highness passed away on the 25th April 1913, after a brief illness. His successor is his minor son, Rajah Nariendar Shah.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH JOGINDRA SINGH RAJAH OF MANDI

THE Mandi State in the Punjaub is under the political control of the Commissioner of the Jullandur Division. It has an area of 1,200 square miles of hill tracts, and a population of about 180,000. 98 per cent. are Hindus, Mahomedans and Budhists making up the remainder. Mandiali is the prevailing language. The Kanets, who number nearly 100,000, and who are agriculturists, form the most important caste. The Rajputs constitute the landed aristocracy of the State, and the industrial classes are few in number and insignificant. Half the total area consists of forests, and more than a third is under cultivation. Over three-fourths of the people are agriculturists, and they attend to pasture and the domestic industries of rural tracts. Rock-salt is the most important mineral. The forests abound in game of all sorts. The temperature is cool even in summer, and the rainfall is heavy. Rice, maize, millet, potatoes, wheat, barley, tobacco, and sugar-cane, are the principal crops. The Rajah is the sole proprietor of the State, and lands are leased to Malguzars. Kuhls (cuts) from the hill streams form the chief source of irrigation. The revenue is nearly five lakhs. The State is divided into four tahsils, each under a Tahsildar. The Rajah controls the affairs of the State, assisted by a Minister. Sentences of death passed by the latter are subject to the concurrence of the former, and then require confirmation by the Commissioner of the Jullandur Division. The army consists of twenty cavalry and one hundred and fifty-two infantry. There is a small police force of nearly one hundred and fifty officers and men. Education is imparted in eight schools. Medical aid is afforded in the King Edward VII Hospital, at the capital town.

Mandi town, the capital of the State, is near the river Beas, 131 miles from Pathankot and 88 from Simla. It has a population of about 10,000. It has several temples and other buildings of architectural interest, the most prominent of them being the Chauntra or the court, in which the Chauntra Wazir, or Prime Minister, is installed, and the Damdama or

the palace, which dates from the seventeenth century. The well-built iron bridge, known as the Empress Bridge, spans the Beas, which flows through the town.

Among the places of interest in the State may be mentioned the famous fortress of Kamalgarh on the banks of the Beas, the principal stronghold of which, situated on an isolated peak, towers 1,500 feet above the level of the river. The fortress is in all three miles long, full of beautiful works of masonry and natural sandstone, and there are many detached bastions, castles and towers about the place.

Ajbar Sen, a descendant of the Chandarbansi Rajahs, founded the town of Mandi in 1527. One of his successors, Suraj Sen, built the fort of Kamla in 1625, and also the Damdama palace at Mandi. Rajah Sidh Sen, who ruled over the State in 1686, extended his dominions and built many temples. He was very hospitable, and on one occasion he entertained the great Guru Govind on a lavish scale. He lived to the ripe age of one hundred and died in 1729. His grandson, Shamsher Singh, who was also very energetic, added large tracts to the principality. His son, Isri Sen, was placed on the *gadi* as a five-year-old boy. Sansar Chand, the Rajah of Kangra, seized the dominions of Isri Sen, and kept him a close prisoner. In 1805 the Kangra Chief directed his arms against the Rajah of Kahlur, who at once sought the aid of the Gurkhas. The united forces defeated the army of Sansar Chand and liberated Isri Sen. In 1809 the Sikhs under Maharajah Ranjit Singh drove away the Gurkhas. Later on the oppression by the Sikhs became so severe that the Chief of Mandi, Balbir Sen, was forced to seek British protection. After the battle of Sobraon, the relations between him and the East India Company were defined in a sanad, dated the 24th October 1846. He died in 1851, and was succeeded by his minor son, Bije Sen. The State was governed by a Council of Regency with Wazir Gusaon as President. The training which the young Chief received during his minority was anything but satisfactory, and the consequence was that utter confusion and disorder reigned supreme soon after he assumed charge of the State. The British Government interfered and restored order by timely warning and advice to the Rajah. On his death in 1902, his son, Bhawani Sen, succeeded him.

The young Prince received his education at the Aitchison College, Lahore. He obtained full administrative powers in 1903. At the beginning of his rule, the Supreme Government rendered all possible help by lending one of their tried officers to assist the Rajah in the management of the State. H. H. Bawani Sen died in March 1912, and was succeeded by Rajah Jogindra Singh, a member of a collateral branch of the ruling family. The Chief is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH
CHURA CHAND
RAJAH OF MANIPUR

EAST of Assam, on the Burmese border and to the north of the Chittagong slopes, lies the hilly State of Manipur. It has an area of 8,456 square miles and a population of nearly 300,000. The main portion of the State is composed of a fertile and beautiful valley, thirty miles long and twenty miles broad. The north-eastern parts of these hills, about fifteen days' journey from the Manipur Valley, rise to an elevation of more than 13,000 feet. The hills then gradually decrease in height and sink into the plains of the Assam Valley. On the south also the country declines towards Chittagong and Arakan. The tract between Cachar and Manipur is one of the most delightful in point of scenery. Dense forests, comprising stately trees and luxuriant bamboos, creepers and ferns, lend a most charming and fascinating prospect to the eye. Several mountain torrents and rivers pass through the country. The Imphal, the Iril, the Thobal, and the Nambal are the chief rivers in the valley. The Jiri, the Makru, the Barak, the Irany, the Lengba, and the Laimatak are other rivers between Manipur and Cachar. The soil is of course very fertile, composed of alluvial clay washed down the hill-sides. The elephant, the tiger, the leopard, the bear, the wild boar, the deer, the rhinoceros and the bison, are freely met with in the forests. The valley itself is 2,500 feet above the sea-level, and the climate is most delightfully cool and pleasant. The annual rainfall is about seventy inches, and it is even heavier in the hill parts. The country is exposed to seismic disturbances. Manipuri is the chief language, with the Naga and the Kuki dialects in the hills. Women take an active share in labour and trade. Though the records seem to point to a late conversion of the Manipuris to Hinduism, the people themselves claim to be Kshattriyas of long descent. There are also a large number of Brahmins. Rice is the staple crop, the other crops of importance being mustard, sugar-cane, pulses, tobacco,

poppy, oats, wheat, and a few English vegetables. Oranges, limes, pine-apples and plantains are the chief fruits. The country is noted for a hardy breed of cattle, and a fine class of ponies. Sericulture is carried on pretty extensively. The ordinary agricultural implements, and brass vessels and pottery required for local needs are manufactured. Reed mats and cane baskets, wood-carving, carpentry and jewelry are other industries of importance. The skins of deer and calves are tanned, and fine saddles, shoes, belts and pouches are manufactured. Very often transactions take place by barter. The chief road is the one leading from Manipur to Dimapur on the Assam-Bengal Railway. The country is generally free from famine. Petty disputes are ordinarily disposed of by punchayat courts, which are empowered to inflict fines. There is a criminal court, exercising first-class powers, at Imphal, the capital. The Rajah is invested with full powers, but sentences of death are subject to confirmation by the Lieutenant-Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam. A State Durbar of two members with the Chief as President, constitutes the executive government. Peace is maintained by a small police force. Fifteen native officers and 370 non-commissioned officers and men make up the State force. A jail, a hospital, and a middle school are the important public institutions at Imphal, which has a population of about 70,000. There are also thirty primary schools in the State.

Nothing is known of the early history of the Manipur Valley. An ethnological examination seems to point to the conclusion that the population comprises immigrants from different directions, there being no ethnic uniformity among them. About 1714, a Naga Chief, named Panheiba, was the ruler. He adopted Hinduism under the name of Gharib Nawaz, together with his people, and since then the principal religion of the country has been Hinduism. There seem to have been constant conflicts between the Manipuris and the Burmans until 1762, when Jai Singh, a grandson of Gharib Nawaz, sought British protection. The force sent to his help was, however, withdrawn, and Manipur was left to itself. After the Burmese war, Gambhir Singh, the son of Jai Singh, was declared an independent prince by the treaty of Yandaboo. Two ranges of hills between the eastern and western bends of the Barak river were added to the Manipur State in 1833. When the Burmese war came to a close, the Ninghthi was mâde the boundary in the east. But, later on, the Kubo Valley was surrendered to the Burmans, and the eastern base of the Yomadaung hills was made the limit on the Burmese border, and the Rajah was given a monthly compensation of Rs. 500. The next year, Gambhir Singh died, leaving an infant son, Chandrakirthi Singh, with Nar Singh, his uncle, as regent. Nar Singh attempted to take the country to himself, and the Rani with her son, Chandrakirthi, fled from it. After the death of Nar Singh in 1850, Chandra-

kirthi returned and was ruler until 1886. In 1879 when the Angami Nagas rose in rebellion and killed the British Deputy-Commissioner, the Rajah sent his forces under Colonel Johnson, the Political Agent, against the rebels. For this service the Chief was made a K. C. S. I. Again, in the Burmese war of 1885, he was helpful to the British. Sur Chandra Singh succeeded his father, Chandrakirthi, in 1886, but there were serious disputes for the *gadi* among the several members of the ruling family, notably among the descendants of Nar Singh. In consequence there was a commotion in the palace in September 1890, when Sur Chandra Singh retreated to Cachar, renouncing his claims, and the Jubraj, Kula Chandra Singh, was recognised as the ruler of the State. But it was thought that his brother, the Senapathi, exercised a bad influence over the palace, and it was determined to remove him. For this purpose, Mr. Quinton, the Chief Commissioner, accompanied by the Political Agent and other Officers, visited Manipur on the 22nd March 1891. This created much confusion; and on the 24th idem when a party of soldiers proceeded to the palace to arrest the Jubraj and the Senapathi, the people rebelled, and the fighting lasted the whole day. Lieutenant Brackenbury was killed. There was an armistice towards the evening, and Mr. Quinton, in company with other officers, went to the palace to meet the Senapathi. They could not come to any amicable settlement; and as the party was about to return, Mr. Grimwood, the Political Agent, was speared, and Mr. Quinton and three others, with the buglers, were beheaded by the common executioner. After this, Mr. Melvill, the Telegraph Superintendent, and a signaller were also killed. To avenge these outrages a British force was sent to Manipur, and the ring-leaders were brought to trial. The Senapathi was executed, and Kulachandra Singh and the other leaders were deported to the Andamans.

The present Chief, His Highness the Rajah Chura Chand, was then selected from a collateral branch of the ruling house and placed on the *gadi*. He was sent to the Ajmir College for his education, and the administration was entrusted to the Political Agent. From 1891 to 1893, the country was much disturbed by the raids of the hill tribes, but order was soon restored. In 1901 Lord Curzon visited the State on his way from Cachar to Burma. The young Chief was invested with full powers in 1907. Forced labour was abolished, and with it domestic slavery ceased to exist. A new system of taxation and of land revenue has been introduced and is worked without any trouble. The management of forests has been placed on a sound basis. Trade is growing, and the fisheries yield an annual income of about 50,000 rupees. The revenue of the State is nearly five-lakhs. The Rajah enjoys a salute of eleven guns.

It may be hoped that the training that His Highness has received will make him a loyal Chief and capable Ruler.

HIS HIGHNESS THE NAWAB MUSHTAQUL HASAN KHAN BAHADUR NAWAB OF BAONI

Baoni is a little Mahomedan sanad State in the Bundelkhand Agency of Central India. It covers an area of 122 square miles and has a population of about 20,000. It is usually administered by the Chief himself, who exercises the powers of a District Magistrate in British territory, but the more important and serious cases are disposed of by the Political Agent. The total revenue of the principality is a little over a lakh There is a small police force of sixty officers and men. Education is imparted in three schools, and medical relief is given in one hospital. The Chiefs of Baoni trace their descent from Imdad-ul-mulk Ghazi-ud-din, the grandson of Asaf Jah, Nizam of Hyderabad. About 1784 he won the favour of the Peshwa and received from him a jaghir of fifty-two villages near Kalpi. At the time of the British advent, Nawab Nasir-ud-daula held only forty-nine of the villages, the rest having been taken away by the Mahratta rulers. In 1806 he recovered possession of all the villages originally granted by the Peshwa. Amir-ul-mulk was the Chief in 1815, and after him came his son, Nawab Muhammad Husain Khan He and his son, Mahdi Hasan Khan, rendered very faithful service during the Mutiny by saving the lives of many Europeans at great personal risk. In recognition of the liberal measures adopted by him, many oriental titles were conferred on him. Owing to failing health, the Chief handed over the management of the State to the British, and this arrangement continued till 1883, when, at his own request, his son was invested with full powers During a pilgrimage to Mecca in 1893, Nawab Muhammad Hasan Khan passed away, and his nephew, Muhammad Riaz-ul-Hasan Khan, succeeded to the *gadi*, and ruled over the principality till his death after a brief illness in the middle of 1911. His minor son, Mushtaqul Hasan Khan Bahadur, born on the 7th February 1896, is the present Nawb. The State is under the management of the Court of Wards. His Highness is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARANA SHRI DAULATSINHJEE THAKORE SAHEB OF LIMBDI

The State of Limbdi is situated in the eastern part of the peninsula of Kathiawar in the Presidency of Bombay. It comprises forty-nine jurisdictional villages with a population of 33,287. It also includes thirty-four villages in the British District of Ahmedabad and about forty-four held by its Bhayats as appanages given by Limbdi to its cadets at different times in the past. These two latter portions formed an integral part of the State at the time of the treaty with the British Government, which this State was the first among the Kathiawar Principalities to enter into in 1807. Both these sets of villages were then clearly regarded as under the jurisdiction of Limbdi and were guaranteed by that treaty. However, with respect to these Zilla villages, an erroneous view, it is said, came to be taken by the British authorities of the true effect and interpretation of the treaty of Bassein made by the Peshwa, Bajirao II, with the Board of Directors in 1802 ; and as the result of the mistake, the territorial jurisdiction over these villages was held to vest in the British Government, the full revenue rights being left to Limbdi. By a similar misconception of the true status of Limbdi's Bhayats with respect to their amenability to the jurisdiction and the authority of the Limbdi State as it existed at the time of the said treaty with Col. Walker in 1807, and in misapprehension of the true relations that had continued between the Chief and the Bhayats ever since, the latter were placed under the jurisdiction of the British Agency so late as 1866, during the minority of the late Thakore Saheb Sir Jaswatsinhjee. Limbdi has not ceased to represent its claims to the proper authorities, who, it is hoped, will see their way to restore to it its old and just rights. Pending these two important questions, the jurisdiction of Limbdi at present extends over an area of 344 square miles. It is a second-class State among the Kathiawar Principalities, and its Chief enjoys the honour of a salute of nine guns. The gross total revenue, including that of the non-jurisdictional villages, is approximately five lakhs of rupees. Limbdi

the capital, is a railway station on the B. G. J. P. Railway. Among the noteworthy places in the town are the Durbar Palace, the Office Buildings, the Lal Bungalow, the Guest House, and the Wodehouse Vegetable Market. The soil, which is in some parts black and in others red, is largely composed of sand. Only a fourth of the total area is under cultivation. The principality is unfortunately liable to inundations, and suffered heavily from this calamity in 1878-79 and in 1899-1900. Cotton and grains are cultivated on a large scale. The only manufacture is coarse cotton cloth. The State has one cotton ginning factory. Before the introduction of railway lines in those parts, the agricultural produce of Limbdi was exported from Dholera, but it is now carried by the Bhavnagar-Wadhwan Railway. Only in four villages the revenue is collected in produce, and in the rest, in cash. Limbdi is administered by a municipality. There is a small force of about a hundred men, of whom thirty are mounted. Almost an equal number of men constitute the police. Education is imparted in more than twenty institutions, and medical aid is afforded in one dispensary.

The Thakore Saheb of Limbdi, H. H. the Maharana Shree Daulatsinhjee, born on the 11th July 1869, belongs to the Zalla family of Rajputs and traces his lineage from Manguji, the second son of Harpaldeo, who lived in the time of Karan Vaghelo, the last Rajput king of Gujrat. Harpaldeo received from him a grant of 1,800 villages in recognition of services rendered. Manguji obtained eighty-four villages from his brother as his appanage and fixed his capital at the village of Jambu, fourteen miles north of Limbdi. His descendants were engaged in incessant warfare with their neighbouring chieftains and had constantly to withstand the inroads of the Mahomedans. In this state of things they had to shift their capital to Kundni. After many generations came the chivalrous and handsome Khetoji, the hero of many an old and popular ballad in Kathiawar. His equally brave son succeeded in driving away the Mahomedan armies from the neighbourhood of Jambu and again established his capital at the old seat. It was subsequently removed to Siani and later on to Limbdi. Another striking personality of the ruling house was Harbhamji I, distinguished for his bravery and heroic exploits. His successor, Harisinhji, who was known as an astute Chief, made the treaty already alluded to with Colonel Walker, the British Resident at Baroda. It marks the most important era in the history of this State. The tribute payable according to it was permanently fixed, and the extant possessions of Limbdi were recognised and guaranteed by the British Government. The fourth in succession to Harisinhjee was Sir Jaswatsinhjee, the late Thakore Saheb. He was one of the most illustrious of the rulers of Limbdi.

From his childhood he gave promise of a very bright career, and while receiving his education at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot, just then established, he won the highest opinion of Mr. Chester Macnaughten, Principal of the College, and invariably elicited remarkable commendations from the Political Officers who happened to visit it, by his uncommon intelligence, knowledge, and noble bearing, and by his affable and courteous manners. The Governor of Bombay, in his Administration Report for the year 1872—74, was pleased to record, "The young Thakore is the most promising of the princes of the Rajkumar College." After completing his study, Sir Jaswatsinhjee sailed for England in 1876, and was the first Kathiawar Chief to proceed to that country. While there, he had the honour of meeting many distinguished personages. During his minority, the administration of the State was under the control of the British Government, but as he had gained their confidence by his abilities, he was installed on the *gadi* even at the early age of eighteen. He enjoyed the distinction of being the first Chief nominated as a Member of the Legislative Council of Bombay at the time when that body consisted of a very limited and specially selected number. Sir James Fergusson, the then Governor of Bombay, wrote to him on the occasion in the following highly complimentary terms:— "My dear Friend, A vacancy occurs in the Legislative Council of this Presidency on the 17th Instant. It has occurred to me that possibly you may not be averse to accept a seat. The ordinary tenure is two years. The motive in offering it to you is my sense of your abilities, acquirements, and administration, and my desire to mark that sense in a public manner. It will also be personally agreeable to me to be thus associated with you......." Sir Jaswatsinhjee went to England a second time on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of H. M. Queen Victoria in 1887 as a representative of the Kathiawar Chiefs, and had the rare privilege of receiving the decoration of K. C. I. E., together with the Queen's autograph photo at the gracious hands of Her Majesty herself. He then extended his tour to Canada and the United States of America, and had the pleasure of seeing President Cleveland. *The New York Herald* then wrote: "Jaswatsinhji is a young man of about twenty-eight years of age, and, from his appearance and bearing, is a fine representative of the land where the east, with the richest hand, showers on her kings barbaric pearl and gold. In manner he is frank and affable, and his conversation shows him to be remarkably fluent and a master of the King's English as it is spoken..." He was regarded as one of the ablest Chiefs of Kathiawar. He was equally well-known for his purity of life, his deep religious learning, his profound love of philosophy, and for his earnest solicitude for the welfare of his subjects. His administrative abilities were more than once testified to

by such Governors as Sir James Fergusson and Lord Reay. The latter, in a public utterance, referred to him as follows :—"I was well aware that among the States of Kathiawar this was one which was administered with sagacity and shrewdness, and it was a very fortunate thing for me when I came to Bombay without any knowledge of the Chiefs of Kathiawar, that you, Thakore Saheb, were the one I had the pleasure of being thrown in frequent intercourse with, and I must say that I regret deeply that the link which united us in the Legislative Council had to be severed. I know that I cannot turn to any one for better advice when I want it than to you, in matters relating to the great province. On every occasion when I settled questions of land tenure or of Railway, or that important question of transit duties, I have always found that your opinion was worth having, and it was given with that straightforwardness and shrewdness which characterise your words and writings. Mr. Piele, your friend, when I came to this Presidency, spoke to me of you as being one of the leading Chiefs in this province. His opinion has been quite confirmed by my personal experience." His late Majesty King Edward VII, when Prince of Wales, remarked about Sir Jaswatsinhjee that he would never forget the young ruler; and such personages as the Duke of Connaught, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl of Northbrook, the Marquis of Dufferin, and the Marquis of Ripon with whom he had the honour of coming in contact at different times, were all highly impressed with his uncommon abilities. Sir Jaswatsinjee died on the 15th April 1907 without issue. It had been his desire to select a fit successor in case of his leaving no heir, and some years before his demise his attention was attracted in Poona to the present Thakore Saheb, Daulatsinhjee, then commonly called Col. Dadbha, commanding the Imperial Service Troops of the Jamnagar State. Gradually the idea matured, and at the time of his death he expressed his wish that the British Government would be pleased to recognise Col. Dadbha as his successor. This was disputed by another claimant, but the authorities concerned, in consideration of the expressed wish of Sir Jaswatsinhjee as well as of the abilities and the fitness of the Thakore Saheb Daulatsinhjee in every way, formally installed him on the 14th April 1908.

Thakore Saheb Daulatsinhjee adorns most worthily the place once so ably filled by Sir Jaswatsinhjee. He comes of a collateral branch of the ruling house of Limbdi holding certain Giras as appanage. Being very closely related to the two successive Jamsahebs of Jamnagar as well as to the Gondal Chief by the tie of matrimonial alliance, his family had received certain villages from both these States. The Thakore Saheb was bred up and educated at the court of the late Jamsaheb Sir Vibhaji who, finding in him capabilities of a very high order, entrusted to him the organisation of the Imperial Service Corps which that State then

offered to raise. In this task he was very successful. He received a prolonged and complete military training at Poona, Deesa, Simla, Mutra, and Meeru, and earned high opinions everywhere of the officers he had come across. While at Poona, Captain Forbes, the Inspecting Officer; Col. Pegunt, he Commanding Officer, Bombay Southern Lancers; and Col. Jones weres pecially pleased with him, for the high degree of excellence he had attained in military parade and camp exercises aswell as for his general abilities and courteous manners. As the Commanding Officer of the Imperial Service Troops of Jamnagar, he had an occasion to draw to himself the notice of Lord Harris, Governor of Bombay, who was pleased to refer to himin very eulogistic terms in his speech when he landed at the Jamnagar Bundar. In 1901 the Government of India sent a contingent of select officers and men from the British Army and the Imperial Service Troops of the different States to represent them at the first meeting of the Federal Parliament for Australia. Altogether thirty-four Commissioned and sixty-six Non-Commissioned Officers were chosen, of whom the Thakore Saheb was one. The party set sail from Bombay on the 24th of November and landed at Sydney in December. Thence they proceeded to Brisbane, where he had the honour of meeting and making the acquaintance of Lord Lamington. In the course of the tour, the Thakore Saheb saw all the five colonies of Australia, and also Tasmania and New Zealand with their principal cities and places of interest. He had the privilege of meeting Lord Hopetown and the Premiers of all the colonies. In New Zealand he was the guest of the late Mr. Seddon and had the opportunity of seeing personally something of the great administrative powers of that celebrated statesman. While in Australia and New Zealand, the party were treated with extreme kindness, and liberal hospitality. The sudden news of the death of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, however, put an end to the rest of the programme, and they returned to India. During the Agency adminitration of the Jamnagar State, when the late Jamsaheb Jaswatsinhji was under age, the Thakore had been the right-hand man of Colonel Kennedy, the Administrator. After the installation of the Jamsaheb, however, some difference of opinion led to the resignation of Daulatsinhjee's place in that State, and the latter was received at once by H. H. the late Rana Saheb of Porbandar with great cordiality. Very shortly the death of Thakore Saheb Sir Jaswatsinhjee took place, and he was exalted to his present position. Thus he became the Chief of Limbdi after a most brilliant career, with ripe experience of the world and of the affairs of State, and a reputation for exceptional ability, tact and energy. He is always assiduous in looking after the welfare of his subjects, and even in the short time since his installation he has been successful in making a name as a very able, enlightened and benevolent ruler. He was the first

among the Kathiawar Chiefs to make education *entirely free* throughout his State. His rule has been signalised by another step of like importance for the revival and the promotion of the trade of Limbdi. By reason of the excellent quality of the cotton as well as of the high cotton producing capacities of the surrounding areas, Limbdi had formerly occupied an important place as a great centre of cotton trade; but the mean artifice of fraudulently mixing bad cotton with good, practised by some people, subsequently lost this position for Limbdi. Soon after his assumption of full power, the Thakore Saheb directed his first attention to this evil, and, by adopting necessary measures and by the establishment of a cotton-press and a cotton market at Limbdi, he has succeeded in a large measure in re-establishing its former trade.

By his liberal and intelligent policy for the education of his people by his endeavours for the amelioration of the lot of the cultivators, by his encouragement of commercial enterprises, and by starting industrial concerns, he has already given ample and substantial proofs of his deep interest in everything concerning the well-being of his subjects. He has not only fully justified the foresight and the judicious selection of the late Sir Jaswatsinhjee, but has vindicated the high expectations held of him by all who had known him. Mr. Fitzgerald, the late agent to the Governor, Kathiawar, said, at the time of his installation:—"The Limbdi family is thus among the most ancient in the world, and you have its glorious traditions to sustain and guide you in the career in which you are now about to enter. You yourself have had to my mind an excellent training for the position you are now called upon to fill. Educated and, in a great measure, brought up at Jamnagar under the eye of your first cousin, the late Jam Vibhaji, you were entrusted by that Chief with the command of the Jamanagar Imperial Service Lancers, which you practically raised, organised and trained, and of which you remained in command for thirteen years. During that time and even after it, you were attached to various British Cavalry Regiments, both Native and European, for training, and invariably won the good opinion of the various commanding Officers under whom you served. That distinguished soldier, the late Col. Chisholm, commanding the fifth Royal Irish Lancers, I know, formed the very highest opinion of your qualities as an officer and of your personal character and recorded of you that you were a 'splendid officer.' While attached to the Imperial Service Troops, you visited Australia and New Zealand, and, since leaving them, you have gained much administrative experience at Porbandar and elsewhere. Your record has been uniformly excellent, and the varied experience that you, have, gained combined with the strict sense of discipline and habit of command which your military training has given you, should be of the

greatest advantage to you as a ruler. You will have no easy task, for the responsibilities of a Ruling Chief are great and the temptations many, but I have every confidence from my long knowledge of your character that you will discharge your responsibilities with wisdom, that you will rule justly, and that the people of your State will enjoy to the full all the benefits of an enlightened and progressive administration."

The heir-apparent, Yuvraj Shree Digvijaysinhjee, was born on the 10th April 1896. He has gone to England for his education, and he is a very bright and promising young Prince. The other members of the family of the Thakore Saheb are the Ranisahiba Shree Baluba, three younger sons, Kumar Shree Partapsinhjee, Kumar Shree Fatehsinhjee, and Kumar Shree Ghanshyamsinhjee, and two daughters, Kunvari Shree Rupaliba and Kunvari Shree Ramnik Kunvarba.

The Thakore Saheb was recently in England, where he won golden opinions as a charming and enlightened Prince. He was one of the Indian Chiefs invited to the garden party given by Their Majesties the King and Queen at Windsor Castle on the 18th July 1912. His Highness is a great believer in the progressive influence of education among any people, and, when he was in England, he gave eloquent public utterance to this conviction. His military training, wide knowledge of affairs, extensive travels, and the rare opportunities he has enjoyed of acquiring an intimate knowledge in all intricate matters of administration, have made him an ideal ruler, and Limbdi has under him already taken a high place among the Protected Native States in the Western Presidency.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJE BAHADUR
SHRIRAM SAVANT BHONSLE
SAR DESAI OF SAVANTVADI

The Mahratta State of Savantvadi in the Bombay Presidency covers an area of 925 square miles and contains a population of about 225,000, made up chiefly of Hindus and Mahomedans, with a few Christians. The annual revenue is nearly five lakhs of rupees. The prevailing language is Mahratti. The State is divided into three Pethas—Vadi, Kudal and Banda. It is surrounded by several mountain ranges, and the whole country presents a very picturesque appearance. There is a large tank in the centre of the Vadi town, called the *Moti Talav* (pearl lake), which adds greatly to the beauty of the place. The lands were surveyed and settled in 1878. The total cultivated area is about 400,000 acres; and there is also a reserve forest of 35,000 acres. The forests abound with wild animals, among which may be mentioned the tiger, the bear, the panther, the bison, the pig, the sambur, and the wild cat. The chief products are rice and *nachni*. Among the exports are cocoanut, coir, timber, kus-kus articles, and lacquered-ware. Tiles and bricks, embroidery, and inlaid cocoanut shells are the principal manufactures. A knitting manufactory has been recently opened. There is a factory attached to the Vadi jail. Adequate provision is made for medical aid, the Westropp Hospital at the capital being very well-equipped and placed in charge of a high class Medical Officer, who also superintends the other four dispensaries in the principality. The Westropp Museum contains specimens of all indigenous products and industries. Instruction is imparted in 108 schools, including five girls' schools, four English schools, and a technical school. The Durbar maintains three public libraries and a printing press. There are nine civil and criminal courts, the Political Agent exercising the powers of a Sessions Judge in criminal matters and those of a High Court in civil cases. Since 1838 the administration has been entrusted to a Political Superintendent, now called the Political Agent. Though there are no railways, several miles of good roads are maintained, and the means of communication are easy and adequate. The

scenery from the sea-coast to the ghats is most superb, full of wooded hills, valleys, gardens, and cocoanut, areca, and palm groves, interspersed with peaks ranging from 300 to 3,000 feet. There are extensive pasture lands. Some of the peaks are said to have been fortified for centuries: the antiquity of Manohar, for instance, as a military station, dates from the days of the Mahabharata.

The rulers of Savantvadi belong to the great Bhonsle family, and trace their descent from Mang Savant. The family title of *Sar Desai* is said to have been originally conferred by the Kings of Bijapur. One of Mang Savant's successors, Khem Savant, who founded the State, made himself independent of the Badashaha of Bijapur. After his death in 1640, his son, Sorn Savant, ruled for eighteen months. His brother, Lakham Savant, succeeded him, and became a vassal and ally of the great Shivaji, who confirmed him as Sar Desai of the South Konkan, including Savantvadi. After him came his brother, Phond Savant. In the days of his son, Khem Savant II, the principality received further grants from Shahu. He entered into a treaty with the British against the pirate, Kanoji Angria of Kolaba. From 1755 to 1803, another Khem Savant, generally known as Khem Savant the Great, was the Chief of Savantvadi. He married a daughter of Jayaji Sindhia, and obtained from the Moghul Emperor the title of Raje Bahadur. He passed away in 1803, and his widow, Lakshmi Bai, adopted in 1805 one Ramachandra Savant or Bhau Sahib. The latter was, however, shortly afterwards murdered, and Phond Savant, another scion of the Bhonsle family, succeeded to the *gadi*. He died in 1812 leaving a minor, Khem Savant, who continued to rule over the State until 1870. From 1870 to 1900, Raghunath Savant was the Sar Desai of Savantvadi. On his death, his cousin, the present Chief, His Highness the Raje Bahadur Shriram Savant Bhonsle, became the ruler. In 1909 he was given the control of the three departments of Durbar, Paga and Devasthan.

The Sar Desai has one son, Khem Savant, commonly known as Bapu Sahib, and four daughters by his first wife, who died in 1902. He has since married the eldest daughter of the late Rajah Saheb of Akalkot. The heir-apparent is about fifteen years of age, and after a careful training in India under Miss Moxon and Lieutenant Tate of Kolhapur, he has gone to England to complete his education. He is now studying at Malvern. The two elder daughters are married, the first to His Highness the Rajah of Dhar, and the second to his brother, Sethuram Baba Pawar, the Jaghirdar of Multan. The Chief is entitled to a salute of nine guns.

The State is being very efficiently administered by the Sar Desai, who is held in high esteem both by the Bombay Government and by the subjects of Savantvadi.

HIS HIGHNESS NAWAB
SIDI IBRAHIM MAHOMED YAKUT KHAN
NAWAB OF SACHIN

Sachin is a small State, forty-two square miles in extent, in the Surat Political Agency of the Bombay Presidency. It is, however, a rich and resourceful principality with 30,000 inhabitants, yielding an annual revenue of over two lakhs and a half. Tanks and wells constitute the chief sources of irrigation. Coarse cotton cloth is the only manufacture of any note. The Nawab exercises full sovereign powers over his subjects in both civil and criminal matters. He is entitled to a salute of nine guns.

Sachin, nine miles from Surat, is on the B. B. & C. I. Railway, and contains the Palaces of the Nawab, a small fort, a jail, a dispensary, and a dharamsala. It is connected by a good metalled road with Surat. Within the limits of this State is the pleasant and important sanitarium of Dumas, in which many gentlemen from Bombay, Surat, and Ahmedabad have built bungalows for use in the hot weather. The climate of the State as a whole is very healthy.

The family of the Nawabs of Sachin is an off-shoot of that of Janjira. As mentioned in the sketch of Janjira, it supplied a number of Admirals under the kings of Ahmednagar and Bijapur, and afterwards transferred its allegiance to the Moghul Emperors. The origin and career of the family as rulers of Janjira have already been detailed. In 1784 Baloo Miyan, the rightful heir to Janjira, was expelled the State by a member of a junior section of the family, and the exiled prince took refuge with the Peshwa in the hope of getting back the State through him. But the Peshwa was not enthusiastic in the matter, and it dragged on for some time until Baloo Miyan sought the aid of Sir Charles Malet, the British Resident in Poona. Lord Cornwallis, the Viceroy, became interested in Baloo Miyan, and through British intervention, a treaty was made with the Peshwa in 1791, by which Baloo Miyan was to receive in perpetuity a



H. H. THE NAWAB OF SACHIN

territory in Gujarat equal in value to the territory of Janjira. The tract so conferred on him constituted a pargana in the neighbourhood of Surat, yielding an annual income of Rs. 75,000. It consisted of twenty villages, seventeen in the Chorasi division, and three in the Jalalpur division of the Surat District. He made Lajpore on the Mindola river his capital, and was allowed the title of *Nawab* on payment of a Nazarana to the Moghul Emperor at Delhi. Latterly he changed his residence to Sachin. He was succeeded by his son, Ibrahim Mahomed Yakut Khan. In his days the State became overburdened with debt, and the British had to intervene and take up the management in 1835, giving him a monthly allowance of Rs. 3,800. Ibrahim Mahomed Yakut Khan died in 1853, and his son, Abdul Karim Khan, succeeded him. He was a much respected ruler and enjoyed the special confidence of the British Government. The State was made over to him, though a balance of five lakhs of rupees remained unpaid, and an agreement was entered into, by which he undertook to liquidate the debt by paying annually Rs. 35,000. A sanad of adoption was granted to him in 1866, and special privileges were conferred on the family. On his death in 1869, the eldest of his three sons, Ibrahim Mahomed Yakut Khan, became the Nawab; the second son, Abdul Gani Khan, resided mainly in Bombay and Poona, and died some twenty years ago; and the third son, Abdul Rahim Khan, now stays in the Nizam's Dominions.

Nawab Ibrahim Mahomed Yakut Khan passed away in 1873, leaving the succession to his son, Abdul Kadir Khan. During his minority the State was under British management. In 1886 he was entrusted with the administration, but finding himself unable to cope with the intrigues around him, he abdicated in 1889, in favour of his three-year-old son Ibrahim Khan. Nawab Abdul Kadir Khan expired in December 1896, a the early age of thirty.

Captain His Highness Nawab Sidi Ibrahim Mahomed Yakut Khan, Mubazarat Dawla Nasrat Jung Bahadur, the present ruler, was brought up in his infancy by a European lady, Miss Rix. He was then sent to the Raj Kumar College, Rajkote, where he remained until 1902, when he joined the Mayo College. At Rajkote he was known for his remarkable cleverness. He made very good progress in his studies, and the College authorities taught him separately. From 1904 to 1906 he received his military training in the Imperial Cadet Corps. He formed part of the escort of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and the Princess of Wales at Calcutta when they toured round India in 1905-06. After leaving the Corps, he returned to the State to gain administrative experience, and was invested with full powers on the 4th May 1907. In 1906 he married Fatima Sultan Jehan

Begum, the only daughter of his uncle, Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan. He has three sons, of whom the eldest, Nawabzada Mahomed Hyder Khan is six years old. The Begum Saheba breathed her last on the 15th December 1913 after the birth of the third son, Nawabzada Mahomed Kaiser Khan. The second son, Nawabzada Mahomed Sirruhr Khan, is four years of age.

The Nawab holds an Honorary Commission in the British Army in India and was for four years and a half Honorary A. D. C. to H. E. Lord Lamington and H. E. Lord Sydenham, Governors of Bombay.

The State maintains a Police Force of 120 men, 20 sowars, and 25 irregulars, and also owns two 9 pounder guns.

Mr. Maniram Ambaram is the Dewan, and the following are the other officers of the State. Judicial Commissioner—Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, Bar-at-Law ; Naib Dewan—Pirzada Motamiah Saheb ; Hazur Assistant—Bhailal Vishwanath ; Private Secretary—Balajirao Krishna Rao ; A. D. C's—Sahebzada M. A. Karim Khan, Sheikh Abdul Aziz, Mir Jamaluddin Khan ; Chief Inspector of Police—Mr. Daniel ; and Chief Engineer—Mr. C. J. Jacobi.

The Nawab has two brothers : the elder, Nawabzada Ahmed Khan, who is twenty-six years of age, is at present in the Nizam's 2nd Imperial Service Lancers at Hyderabad ; and the younger, Nawabzada Abdul Karim Khan, junior to him by two years, has recently obtained his B. A. degree at Balliol, Oxford, and is now qualifying himself for the Bar. He has been resident in England for the last thirteen years.

The administration of the State is carried on under the immediate supervision of the Nawab Saheb, and all the subjects are contented and happy. The Nawab Saheb is a capable ruler and has introduced many reforms in his State.

HIS HIGHNESS THE THAKORE SAHEB HARISINHJI JAISINHJI THAKORE SAHEB OF DHROL

The second-class State of Dhrol in the Kathiawar Peninsula is an offshoot of Cutch. It has an area of 283 square miles and a population of about 25,000. Its income is nearly two lakhs. There are eight schools and one dispensary. The police force numbers one hundred and forty-four. The Chief of Dhrol is entitled to a salute of nine guns.

Tradition ascribes the origin of Dhrol to the following circumstances:—Hardholji and his brother, Jam Rawal, were the founders of Dhrol and Nawanagar respectively. Jasoji, the eldest son of Hardholji, succeeded his father as the Chief of Dhrol.

In a quarrel with his maternal uncle, Raysinhji, the Rajah of Halwad, Jasoji lost his life, and he was succeeded by his eldest son, Bamaniyoji. We then pass through the times of Hardholji, Mohadji, Pachanji, Kaloji, and Shanghoji. During the days of the last ruler, Nawanagar was invaded by the Mahomedans. He went to the help of the Nawanagar Chief, and was slain in battle. He was succeeded by his brother, Junojee. During Junojee's time, owing to a severe famine in Cutch, many inhabitants fled from that country and settled down in Dhrol. It was he who saved again Nawanagar from the intrigues of the minister, Govardhan Singh, when the latter attempted on behalf of his sister, the wife of the deceased Jam, to place a false heir on the *gadi*. Junojee killed the wily minister with his own hand and restored Nawanagar to the brother of the late Jam. Junojee was succeeded by his eldest son, Khetoji. After him came Kaloji II, who was murdered by Dangra Bayat. His successor was his brother, Vaghaji, a very valiant prince. It is said that in his time the Maharajah of Jodhpur with his followers passed to Dwarka through Dhrol. The disturbance created by his retinue brought about a quarrel between Vaghaji and the Maharajah, in which the Jodhpur army was defeated and the Chief had to return to his place; hence the common saying in Dhrol, *Athaya Dwarka* or "Here is Dwarka." Vaghaji, it would appear,

reigned for eighty years. When he died, he was succeeded by his eldest son, Jaisinhji or Dadabhai. After him came Nathoji and Modji. The chief event in the latter's reign was the united but fruitless attempt made by the Jadeja Chiefs of Kathiawar to free the Jam of Nawanagar from the interferences of Meharaman, the Chief Minister. Modji was succeeded by his son, Bhupatsinhji. It was during his reign that Colonel Walker, the British Resident in Baroda, visited Kathiawar in 1808-09, for the purpose of fixing the tributes to be paid by the Chiefs of that Peninsula. According to the settlement, Bhupatsinhji got from Nawanagar the district of Sarapdad in 1812. He died in 1845, and was succeeded by his son, Jayasinhji II, who continued to rule over Dhrol till 1886. He was a wise and successful Chief. A scholar himself, he patronized learning. He improved the administration in several ways; many public buildings were put up; roads were constructed; gardens were laid out; and numerous *dharmasalas* were brought into existence. Great irrigation works were also undertaken. A fine palace was erected in Dhrol, and a wall was built round the city. In the great famine of 1877-78, he rendered help to his subjects and saved them by distributing provisions free of cost. He was succeeded by the present popular Ruler, His Highness the Thakore Saheb Harisinhji Jaisinhji.

The Chief has made an extensive tour through Upper India. He is a lover of music and the fine arts, and is known for his great hospitality. Among the improvements effected during his time may be mentioned the Victoria Diamond Jubilee Dispensary and the Pritchard Girls' School. The town has been beautified with a clock-tower. His Highness spent large sums of money during the famines of 1900-01 and 1902-03, in relieving the poor and the distressed. He has two sons, Daulatsinhji and Samatsinhji, both of whom have received good education at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot. The elder of them is now under practical training in administrative work. K. S. Dipsinhji, the son of the heir-apparent, and K. S. Umedsinhji, the eldest son of the cadet, have had several years' training at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot; and they hold at present responsible positions in the State.

The Thakore Saheb is ably assisted in the administration by the talented Dewan or Karbhari-in Chief, Azam Mulshankar Dayaram Dave. This gentleman has given to the Dhrol State nearly a quarter of a century of service, the major portion of which has been passed in the onerous and responsible office which he now holds. He is a native of Rajkot, and is one of the ablest men that have given their best time and energy to the welfare of the Native States in the Western Presidency.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAO BAHADUR
DURJAN SAL SINGH
RAO BAHADUR OF KHILCHIPUR

The Khilchipur State is a mediatized chiefship in the Bhopal Agency of Central India. It covers an area of 273 square miles, and has a population of more than 30,000. A little more than a fourth of the area is under cultivation, and an equal portion is covered by forests. Jowar, cotton, poppy, and wheat are the chief products. The climate is temperate, and the average rainfall is thirty-two inches. For administrative purposes the State is divided into three tahsils, each in charge of a Tahsildar. The Chief exercises full powers in civil and revenue matters, but all serious criminal cases are disposed of by the Political Agent in Bhopal. The annual revenue amounts to nearly a lakh and a half, of which the sum of Rs. 12,625 is paid as tribute to the British Government. The Durbar maintains a small force of 165 infantry, which serves as a body-guard to the Chief. There are besides 25 cavalry and 300 infantry doing police work without prejudice to their legitimate duties. The capital, Khilchipur, is at the foot of the Vindhyas. During the règime of the Mahomedan kings, it was known as Khiljipur, but its original name was Khichipur. The rulers of Khilchipur are Khichi Rajputs, of the well-known Chauhan clan. Ugrasen, who had founded the State in 1544, left his country owing to family quarrels, and obtained from the Moghul Emperor parganas which are now merged in the Indore and Gwalior principalities. During the settlement of Malwa in 1819, a dispute arose regarding the succession, when, at the instance of the Gwalior State, the British intervened, and recognized the claims of Diwan Sher Singh, a boy of five years. In 1869 he was succeeded by his nephew, Amar Singh, who won the hereditary distinction of Rao Bahadur in 1873. His son, Bhawani Singh, came to the *gadi* in 1899. The present minor Chief, His Highness the Rao Bahadur Durjan Sal Singh, was born on the 26th August 1897. He enjoys a salute of nine guns. The State is now under British management.

HIS HIGHNESS THE NAWAB SIR AMIR-UD-DIN AHMED KHAN BAHADUR, K.C.I.E., NAWAB OF LOHARU

The Mahomedan State of Loharu in the Punjaub has an area of 222 square miles and a population of 15,000. It is under the political control of the Commissioner of Delhi. The revenue does not much exceed a lakh of rupees. The chief town, Loharu, is fifty-two miles from Hissar. It contains the palace of the Nawab and the usual public offices, such as a hospital, a jail, and a post and telegraph office. The founder of the State was Ahmad Baksh Khan, an Afghan, who was in the employ of the Rajah of Alwar. It was through him that negotiations between Lord Lake and the Rajah of Alwar were carried on at the beginning of the last century; and, as a reward, he had from the Rajah the Loharu tracts in perpetuity, and from the East India Company the pargana of Firozpur. But the latter was confiscated in the days of his son, Shams-ud-din Khan, who was executed at Delhi in 1835 for compassing the murder of Mr. Fraser, the British Resident. The Loharu State was, however, made over to his two brothers, Amin-ud-din and Zia-ud-din, who had no share in the conspiracy. They were in Delhi during the siege of 1857. The title of Nawab was conferred on Ala-ud-din, the son of Amin-ud-din. The present Chief, His Highness the Nawab Sir Amir-ud-din Ahmed Khan Bahadur Fakhar-ud-Daula, K. C. I. E., born in 1860, succeeded his father, Ala-ud-din, in 1884. He is known as a successful ruler, and enjoys the special confidence of the Government of India. From 1893 to 1903 he was the administrator of Maler Kotla during the minority of the Chief of that State. Loharu was then managed by the Nawab's younger brother. In appreciation of his capacity and services, His Highness was made a C. I. E. in 1893, and a K.C.I. E. in 1897. In commemoration of the Coronation Durbar of 1903, the Nawab Saheb opened an English charitable dispensary, the first of its kind ever established in the principality. The same year a salute of nine guns was granted to him as a personal distinction.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARANA
SHRI JORAWARSINGHJI PRATAPSINGHJI
RAJAH OF SUNTH

Sunth is a small second-class State in the Rewa Kantha Agency of Bombay, with an area of 394 square miles and a population of about 50,000. The ruling family is one of the oldest in the country claiming descent, with the Chiefs of Dhar, from the famous Vikramaditya and Bhoj of ancient India. The revenue is about two lakhs, of which the sum of Rs. 5,384-9-10 is paid as tribute to the British Government. Sunth is divided into two parts by a range of hills, and the climate is a little malarial. The Chief exercises full powers free from the intervention of the political Agent, and is entitled to a salute of nine guns. As collateral with the family of Dhar, the ruling house belongs to the Mahipawat clan of the Paramara sect of Rajputs. It is traditionally believed that about the tenth century one Jhalam Singh, from Mount Abu, became the Rajah of Jhalod in the Panch Mahals. The fifth in descent, also a Jhalam Singh, had a beautiful daughter whom the Mahomedan emperor wanted to marry; and as the proud Rajput Chieftain did not consent to the degrading alliance, he was overpowered by the imperial forces and killed in battle. His son, Rana Sunth, about the middle of the thirteenth century, conquered the Bhil Chief of Brahmapuri, and took possession of his principality. He changed the name of the capital into Sunth, and thus established his dynasty there. There is another tradition that the Sunth family came directly from Dhar when that country was conquered by Mahomedans. In the fifteenth century, it was tributary to the Sultans of Ahmedabad; and at the time of the settlement of Malwa, it was ravaged by Sindhia. Through the intervention of Sir John Malcolm, the State was allowed to continue on an annual payment of 6,100 rupees, until it came under British protection. Since 1826 it has been in the Rewa Kantha Agency. Maharana Shri Pratapsinghji ruled the State from 1873 to 1906, when the present Chief, His Highness the Maharana, Shri Jorawarsinghji Pratapsinghji, born on the 24th March 1901, succeeded him as a minor.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH
PRATAP SINGH
RAJAH OF ALI-RAJPUR

The State of Ali-Rajpur in the Bhopawar Agency of Central India takes its name from Ali and Rajpur, the old and present capitals of the State. It was once known as Ali-Mohan from the two forts, Ali and Mohan. But now Mohan is in the sister State of Chota Udaipur. The population is about 50,000. The Chief exercises the powers of a first-class Magistrate, the more heinous crimes being tried by the Political Agent. The revenue does not much exceed a lakh. The ruling family claims descent from the famous Rathor house of Jodhpur. It was founded by Ude Deo or Anand Deo in 1437. Of his two great-grandsons, Gugal Deo and Kesar Deo, the former succeeded to Ali-Rajpur, and the latter obtained the tracts that now comprise the Jobat State. In 1818 when Rana Pratap Singh was the ruler, one Musafir Makrani was the Minister, who subsequently rose to be the Manager of the State for Jaswant Singh, the posthumous son of Pratap Singh. There was some opposition from Kesri Singh, a nephew of the former Chief, but this was set right through British intervention. In 1821 disputes between the Dhar State and Ali-Rajpur were settled. Dhar gave up its feudal rights over Ali-Rajpur, and the British Government was permitted to collect 11,000 rupees from it, on condition that it paid Rs. 10,000 to the Dhar durbar, and maintained the Agra-Bombay road police. Jaswant Singh died in 1862, and he had willed his State to his sons in equal shares. This will was set aside by the Government, who recognised his eldest son, Ganga Deo, as ruler. He was deposed in 1871 for incompetency, when his younger brother, Rup Deo, was placed on the *gadi*. On his dying childless in 1881, the Government of India selected Bijai Singh from the Sondwa Thakur's family. In 1890 Rana Bijai Singh passed away, and his cousin, Pratap Singh, the present Chief, succeeded him. His Highness was educated at the Daly College, Indore. In recognition of his able and successful administration, the hereditary distinction of Rajah was conferred on him at the Delhi Durbar of 1911, and he is entitled to a salute of nine guns.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAWAL
SHRI INDARSINGHJI
RAJAH OF BANSDA

Bansda is a small second-class State of 215 square miles in extent under the political control of the Surat Agency, Bombay. The population does not much exceed 40,000. About half the area is cultivable, but only a fourth is under cultivation. Excepting thirty-four mounted men and thirty-three Arab-guards, there are no regular troops in the State. The police force numbers nearly 150, and there is one jail. Education is imparted in fifteen institutions, one of them being a girls' school. The children of the forest tribes receive free instruction in the Durbar schools. Medical relief is given at one hospital, and there is also a travelling dispensary. The total revenue is about four lakhs. The Chief exercises full powers and is entitled to a salute of nine guns. The ruling family belongs to the Solanki clan of Rajputs and is styled Vansdia. The State appears to have been once very prosperous, if we judge from the ruins of old forts, temples and irrigation works. The tracts at one time seem to have extended to the sea-coast, but the advent of the Mahomedans evidently drove the rulers into the interior. The Mahrattas were the first to bring them under subjection; and by the provisions of the treaty of Bassein, the political supervision over Bansda was transferred to the British. The late Chief, Rajah Shri Pratapsinghji Gulabsinghji, born on the 6th December 1863, came to the *gadi* on the 6th March 1876. During his minority the State was under British management, and the Rajah was educated at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot. He was invested with full powers in 1885. In 1882 he married Chandra Kunwarba Sahiba of Dharampur. Again, in 1886 he married Himat Kunwarba Sahiba of Ali-Rajpur, by whom he had a son in 1888, Shri Indarsinghji. By a third wife, whom he married in 1889, he had several children. He took great interest in improving the agriculture of the State, and it was during his time that the revenue rose from two to four lakhs. After his death in 1911, he was succeeded by his son, the present Chief, His Highness the Maharawal Shri Indarsinghji.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARANA SIR AMAR SINGHJI BENI SINGHJI, K. C. I. E., RAJ SAHEB OF VANKANER

The second-class hilly State of Vankaner in the Kathiawar Peninsula covers an area of 415 square miles with a population of about 30,000, of whom more than a half are Hindus, and a fourth Mahomedans, besides 2,000 Jains. The average rainfall is twenty-two inches. The climate, though hot, is healthy. Nearly a fourth of the total area has been brought under cultivation, and the principal products are grains, sugar-cane and cotton. The Durbar pays special attention to horse-breeding. A kind of black marble is found in the State. The nearest port is Jodiya. The revenue exceeds three lakhs, of which the sum of Rs. 18,879 is paid as tribute to the British Government and the Nawab of Junagarh. There is a police force of about a hundred men, more than a dozen of whom are mounted. In addition to the principality, the Chief owns also the village of Khasta in the Ahmadabad District, which gives an annual income of nearly 40,000 rupees. There is a ginning factory in the capital. Instruction is imparted in fifteen schools. The Raj Saheb exercises full powers, and is entitled to a salute of nine guns. Vankaner is an off-shoot of Dhrangadhra. It was founded about the end of the sixteenth century by Sartanji, the grandson of Chandra Singhji of Dhrangadhra. The State is thus connected with Dhrangadhra, Limbdi, Vadhwan and Than Lakhthar. It came under British protection at the time of the Kathiawar settlement in 1807. From 1861 to 1881 Beni Singhji was the Raj Saheb of Vankaner. On his death he was succeeded by his two-year-old son, Amar Singhji Beni Singhji. During his minority the State was administered by a Karbhari under British supervision, and the Prince was educated at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot. He has travelled widely both in India and Europe. He is an enlightened Chief and takes great interest in his work. Among the improvements effected by him may be mentioned the construction of two irrigation tanks at Jaswatsar and Mesaria. His Highness the Raj Saheb was made a K. C. I. E. on the occasion of the last Delhi Durbar.

HIS HIGHNESS THE THAKUR SAHEB
LAKHAJI BAVAJI
THAKUR SAHEB OF RAJKOT

Rajkot is a compact second-class State in Kathiawar, Bombay. Its area is 282 square miles. Its population is more than 50,000. Its revenue exceeds three lakhs, of which the sum of Rs. 21,321 is paid as tribute to the British Government and the Nawab of Junagarh. Education is provided in twenty schools, and there are two dispensaries for purposes of medical aid. The Chief exercises full powers, and is entitled to a salute of nine guns. The town of Rajkot has, among several other institutions, the well-known Keatinge College, named after Colonel Keatinge, V.C, the Political Agent from 1863 to 1867. It is a fine imposing building in the Gothic style, equipped, on a lavish scale, with endowments from its old alumni, who are now Chiefs in several States. The Rasulkhanji Hospital, built by the Nawab of Junagarh, is maintained by all the Princes of Kathiawar. Within the military limits of the station are found a fine church and a clock-tower built by the late Jam Saheb of Nawanagar. In the civil portion are erected the Kathiawar Agency police lines, and the Rajkot central prison. The State stud-farm and dairy, and the artificial tanks irrigating many square miles of the country, are also near the town. The ruling family is an off-shoot of that of Nawanagar. The progenitor was Kunwar Vibhoji, a younger son of Ajoji and great-grandson of Jam Rawal, the founder of Nawanagar. Rajkot came under British protection in 1807 along with the other Kathiawar Principalities. The present Chief, His Highness the Thakur Saheb Lakhaji Bavaji, succeeded to the *gadi* in 1890. He was of course educated at the Rajkumar College in his own place. He has travelled widely in England and India. He is a great sportsman. He has done much to improve agriculture in his principality. A State Council, a State Bank, and several weaving and flour mills owe their existence to him. He is a very popular and influential Chief in Kathiawar.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAWAL
SHRI FATEH SINGHJI MOTI SINGHJI
RAJAH OF CHOTA UDAIPUR

The second-class State of Chota Udaipur or Mohan is in the Political Agency of Rewa Kantha, Bombay. Its area is 873 square miles. The Orissa dividing it into two equal portions, and the Narbada washing its southern boundary, are its chief rivers. Hilly and overgrown with forests, the country is damp and unhealthy. Fever is endemic. The population is about 65,000, consisting mostly of Bhils or Kolis. There are also nearly 2,000 Mahomedans. The forests cover a little less than a fourth of the total area. There has been a decline in the lands under cultivation owing to a reduction in the population, but it may be hoped that the revival of the tracts in this matter is not distant. The mineral resources of the State seem to be very great, though nothing has been done to prospect and work them. Timber, cotton, and mahuva flowers are the principal exports. Mohan was at one time the capital of the State ; hence the principality is known by that name also. The Chief exercises full civil and criminal powers. The revenue is more than two lakhs, of which the sum of Rs 8,908 is paid to the Gaekwar of Baroda as tribute. A military police force of about 270 men and a mounted corps of 25 serving as a body-guard to the Rajah, constitute the forces maintained by the Durbar. The members of the ruling family are Chauhan Rajputs. Driven by the Mahomedan rulers, they left Rajputana for the Champaner city and fort in Gujarat in 1244. Nearly two centuries and a half later, they fled from that place before Mahmud Begara, and, branching into two divisions, founded the sister States of Chota Udaipur and Bariya. During the trying days of the Mutiny, Rajah Jit Singhji, the Chief of Chota Udaipur, declined to join Tantia Topi, who was defeated by General Parke, while engaged in front of the town in trying to force the Rajah to obedience. He was succeeded in 1881 by Moti Singhji. The present Chief, Maharawal Shri Fateh Singhji Moti Singhji, born on the 23rd October 1884, came to the *gadi* in 1906. His Highness is entitled to a salute of nine guns.



H. H. THE RAJAH OF DEVGAD-BARIA

HIS HIGHNESS MAHARAOLJEE SHREE RANJITSINHJI RAJAH SAHEB OF DEVGAD-BARIA

Among the States situated in Gujarat is **Devagad-Baria**, a small principality in the east of the Province, which is by no means the least interesting. With an area of 813 square miles it supports a population of only 1,15,201, according to the figures of the last census, and shows an average revenue of Rs. 5,60,000. The Baria Ruler enjoys plenary powers and is entitled to a salute of nine guns. Succession to the *gadi* is by primogeniture, but the right of adoption was conferred on the Rajah of Baria and his successors in 1890.

The Rajahs of Baria belong to the Khichi Chohan Rajputs whose head, Annal, is said to have been created by Vasisth Muni out of the Agni Kund on Mount Abu. Ajayapal, one of Annal's successors, founded the city of Ajmere, and another successor, Manikrai, who settled at Sambhar, handed down the title of *Sambhari Rao*, or Lord of Sambhar. The Khichi Chohans appear to have first settled in the Sind Sagar, and in the eleventh century we find Bir Bilander or Dharmagaj, one of the successors of Manikrai, defending Ajmere against Mahmud of Ghazni. His successor, Bisaldev or Visaldev, flourished from 1010 to 1074 and founded the town of Visalnagar in North Gujarat. The line of his immediate successor culminated in the immortal Prithiraj Chohan, the celebrated hero of Chand's great epic, the Prithiraj Raso. After the death of Prithiraj on the field of battle, the Khichis settled in a part of Malwa which came to be called after them, the Khichi Vada. In 1300 Khichi Hamir, a descendant of Prithiraj, gallantly defended Ranthambhor against Alaudin Khilji, but after the fall of this stronghold a large body of Khichis migrated to Gujarat, and there in 1244 A. D., under the leadership of Palanshi, conquered the kingdom of Champaner. This was an important conquest, for Champaner and its dependencies remained in the Palanshi family for no less than eleven generations. But in 1484-85, after a prolonged siege of twelve years, the fortress of Champaner, gallantly defended by Patai Rawal, also known as Pratab Singh, who was then the reigning prince, fell, at last, by a combination of treachery and stratagem to the renowned Sultan Mahomed Begda. The story goes that the Rawal's brother-in-law treacherously joined the Mahomedans and, leading the Rajput Prince to believe that he was sending a supply of grain for the garrison, managed, under that pretence, to convey into the fort, hidden in sacks, some one or two thousand—for the accounts are not definite—armed men. The defeat of the garrison followed

and was signalized by the capture of the unfortunate Prince and his Minister Doongarsingh. Sooner than renounce their faith and become converts to Islam, the option given them if they wished to preserve their lives, they chose death and were both barbarously murdered, their bodies afterwards being exposed on stakes. The capture of Champaner parted the two surviving sons of Patai Rawal. Prithviraj founded the State of Chhota-Udaipur, while Doongerji founded that of Baria. The chronicles are somewhat vague at this point in the history of the State, but we eventually find that, on the death of Mansing, one of the successors of Doongerji, the State was left with a widowed Rani and a young son. The Government was seized by an usurper, the Rani and her son, Prithiraj, taking refuge meanwhile with the Rawal of Dungerpur, the Queen's father. Under this friendly protection Prithiraj stayed for twelve years, returning to Baria in 1782. Taking arms, he drove out the usurper and built the present town of Devgad-Baria.

The Baria State from the very beginning had a severe struggle for its existence and for the maintenance of its independence, and its efforts were successful. It never paid tribute or acknowledged subordination to either the Musalman or the Mahratta Government. Indeed, so far from paying tribute, the State actually levied chauth from three of Scindia's own districts in the Panch Mahals, named Dohad, Halol, and Kalol. The Chauth in 1819 was commuted to a money payment, and the British Government undertook to pay the same direct to the State, recouping itself by deducting the amount of the chauth from the tribute which the State of Lunawada paid to Scindia through them.

Prithiraj left four sons and two daughters. Rayadharji succeeded to the throne, and four or five rulers followed, whose reigns call for no comment. At the beginning of the nineteenth century (1803), when Jaswatsinji was the reigning prince, we find the Baria Raj loyally co-operating with the British, when Doulatrai Scindia's districts in Gujarat were taken possession of by a British force under Colonel Murray. Mr. J. P. Willoughby, the Political Agent in Rajpipla, in his report dated some twenty-three years later, remarks :—" The success of that campaign appears to have been materially facilitated by the friendships and good-will displayed towards us by the Rajah of Baria, who was considered the principal of the Bheel Rajahs to the northward of the Nerbudda. The conduct pursued by the Baria Government throughout this campaign called forth the warmest thanks and praises of the commanding officer, and a treaty was entered into by us, subsidizing a detachment of the Baria Bheels at a monthly expense of Rs. 1,800. This secured the friendship and co-operation of this tribe and enabled our convoys and detachments to pass through

the country without molestation." In one of his reports the Colonel observes :—"The friendship of the Baria Rajah has in a particular manner favoured us. His country is a continued chain of defiles for many miles; he has permitted me without molestation to occupy these defiles, and has promised that his whole force shall assist should an enemy attempt to penetrate by that route, which is the only good road into Gujarat." On another occasion he reports :—"Major Holmes speaks in high terms of the friendship he has experienced in his march through the country of the Rajah of Baria." In return for this friendly aid the Colonel proposed to cede to the Rajah whatever districts might be conquered to the east of Baria in the direction of Ujjain and also the districts of Jhallod, in lieu of certain claims upon the other districts conquered from Scindia on this side of India. Though these intentions were never carried into effect owing to the Political Adjustments of territory between the British and the Gwalior Governments, the foregoing exhibits in a very favourable light the attitude of the Baria Raj towards the British, and of its fidelity and good will, and affords a signal proof that in proportion to its ability it has on every occasion shown itself to be a useful ally of the British Government. It should be mentioned that the aid and assistance referred to were rendered by the Baria State at considerable risk to itself, as it thereby incurred the enmity of its powerful neighbours, who possessed means and opportunities for destructive visitations into Baria territory. The British Government were not slow to recognise all this and ensured the integrity of the State under the treaty of Sirji Anjangaon.

Jaswantsinghji was succeeded by Gangdasji, in whose reign there was a good deal of trouble owing to the treachery of a Brahmin, named Naranji Dave. Gangdas died in 1819, and his minister, Roopji, a brother of Naranji Dave, took the reins of Government in his own hands, and deposed for a time Prithiraj, the rightful heir, in favour of a substitute. The British Government, however, intervened and placed Prithiraj on the throne. Prithiraj reigned no less than forty-four years, and was greatly beloved by his people. He passed away in 1864.

His son, Mansinhji, the father of the present Rajah, succeeded him. He was only nine years of age at his father's death, and the State, during the minority, was managed by the Bombay Government. The young Chief's education was carefully looked after on modern lines, and when the Baria ruler succeeded to the *gadi* in November 1876, one of his first thoughts was to raise the educational standard of his people. He founded a number of vernacular schools, and, among other improvements, opened an experimental farm, which was put under the management of a practical agriculturist. This institution is doing splendid service, and is in a highly flourishing condition. The improvement of the various breed of cattle is a matter which receives much attention, and works of public utility also engaged the earnest attention of the State. His Highness was a keen and skilled huntsman, and his sportsman-like qualities and

his great kindness to his people made him an extremely popular ruler. He visited Bombay when the present King, then Prince of Wales, came to India, and he was also present at the Delhi Durbar in 1903 His death took place after a short illness on the 29th February 1908, his surviving children being two sons, Ranjitsinhji and Naharsinhji and one daughter, by name Surajkunvarba

The ruling Prince, Rajah Ranjitsinhji, received his education at Rajkumar College, where his diligence in his studies earned for him the golden opinions of Mr. Wadington and Mr. Mayne. He also served his time in the Imperial Cadet Corps. His education received the last touch by a pretty long stay in a first rate educational institution in England.

From his boyhood the Rajah Saheb displayed in a marked degree the hereditary knack and pluck in all manly sports. He is a splendid pigsticker as evidenced by his winning the Salmon, Gujarat and Sir Partap Cups in keen contests with veteran and astute pig-stickers. His prowess as a hunter of big game may be judged from the fact that hehas already bagged almost a hundred panthers and tigers, and a very large number of bears.

His installation on the *gadi* took place in 1908, and for the onerous duties of ruler he was prepared by careful tuition in administrative work under the able guidance of his Dewan, Mr. Harilal M. Parekh. His Highness is one of the best types of the Indian Rulers brought up on modern lines. Some idea of the aims by which he is animated may be gathered from an extract from his speech on the occasion of his installation. Replying to the speech made by Mr. R. C. Brown, the Political Agent, the young Ruler said. "—You have been kind enough to refer to the services rendered by my ancestors from the commencement of the nineteenth century, and their unbroken loyalty to the British Government. It will be my pride to maintain the traditions of my ancestors in their loyalty and attachment to the British Raj.... I shall always regard it as my most pious duty to promote the prosperity and well-being of my people, and it shall be my highest ambition to earn their gratitude by a proper discharge of my obligations to them, and securing to them fair and even-handed justice, full private liberty, and all other blessings of an enlightened rule." As events have proved, these were no empty words.

During the first quinquennium of his rule the young Rajah Saheb has founded many public institutions in the State, namely, Hospital for women and children, Veterinary Hospital, Gymkhana, Town Hall, etc. Education in both English and Gujarati is made free throughout the State. His Highness evinces active and keen interest in the welfare of his subjects—in their peace, prosperity, and progress. He has been recently appointed Hon. A. D. C. to His Excellency the Rt. Hon. Lord Willingdon, Governor of Bombay. He is married to a daughter of the Rajah of Rajpipla.

The happy union is blessed with a daughter and a son, the heir-apparent being Kumar Shree Surendrasinhji.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARANA SIR SHRI WAKHATSINGHJI DALELSINGHJI, K. C. I. E., RAJAH OF LUNAWARA

Lunawara is a second-class Rajput State in the Rewa Kantha Agency of Bombay. It covers an area of 388 square miles and has a population of about 60,000. Two-thirds of the people are Hindus, and there are nearly 4,000 Mahomedans. Among the Hindus, Brahmins, Rajputs, and Kunbis predominate. Three-fourths of the area of the principality have been brought under cultivation. Timber and cereal grains are the chief products. The Rajah exercises full powers. The revenue exceeds two lakhs, and the tribute, payable to the British Government and the Gaekwar of Baroda, is Rs. 14,232. The police force numbers about 180 For purposes of instruction there are fifteen educational institutions and medical aid is afforded in two dispensaries. The Mahi flows through the country, and the climate is comparatively cooler than in the adjoining tracts of Gujarat. The Maharanas of Lunawara belong to the Solanki clan of Rajputs and trace their descent from Sidhraj Jai Singh who was the ruler of Anhilvarapatan and Gujarat. At the beginning of the thirteenth century, they established themselves as Chiefs of Virpur. In 1434 probably to avoid conflict with the rising Mahomedan power in Gujarat, they crossed the Mahi and settled down at Lunawara. The State was tributary to both Baroda and Gwalior, and it was transferred to the British in 1861 at the time of the cession of the Panch Mahals. The family title is Maharana. The present Chief, His Highness the Maharana Sir Shri Wakhatsinghji Dalelsinghji, K. C. I. E., who was born on the 28th August 1861, succeeded to the *gadi* in 1867, and was invested with full powers in 1880. He was educated at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot. His Highness was made a K. C. I. E. in 1889. He is entitled to a salute of nine guns. He is an experienced and much respected ruler, and the State is doing well under him.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH
BRIJ NATH SINGH
RAJAH OF MAIHAR

Maihar is a sanad State in Central India under the Political Agent in Baghelkhand. It has an area of 407 square miles and a population of more than 60,000. Three-fourths of the people are Hindus, and the rest Animists and Mahomedans. Baghelkhadi and Bundelkhandi are the prevailing languages. The tract is hilly and alluvial. The soil is on the whole fertile and yields good crops. The principal products are *kodon*, rice, gram and wheat. For want of proper means of communication, trade has not developed. Instruction is given in a dozen schools. Medical aid is afforded in one hospital. The total revenue of the State is nearly a lakh of rupees. The Chief exercises unlimited powers in general administration and in civil judicial matters, but in criminal cases he can only award sentences of imprisonment not exceeding two years. The ancestors of the rulers of Maihar migrated from Alwar between the seventh and eighth centuries, and obtained some lands from the Orchha Chief. One of their successors, Thakur Bhim Singh, worked under Chhatarsal of Panna. His grandson, Beni Singh, rose from small beginnings to the exalted position of minister to Rajah Hindupat, who conferred on him the principality of Maihar about 1770. Beni Singh was a capable ruler, and traces of his large-heartedness and liberality are seen in many monuments, such as tanks and buildings that are still preserved. In 1806 the State came under British protection ; and in 1814, Durjan Singh, a son of Beni Singh, was confirmed in his possessions. He died in 1826, when the principality was divided between his sons, Bishan Singh and Prag Das, the former succeeding to Maihar, and the latter to Bijai-Raghogarh. On account of the rebellious conduct of Prag Das, his principality was confiscated. Bishan Singh was succeeded by Ragubir Singh in 1852. The hereditary distinction of Rajah was conferred on him in 1869, and he became entitled to a permanent salute of nine guns in 1878. After him came the present Chief, Rajah Brijnath Singh, in 1911.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH
JADABINDRA SINGH
RAJAH OF NAGOD

Nagod, a sanad State in Central India, under the Political Agent in Baghelkhand, covers an area of 500 square miles, and has a population of nearly 70,000. Nine-tenths of the people are Hindus; Animists (Gonds and Kols), and Mahomedans, make up the rest. Baghelkhandi is the prevailing language. The majority of the people pursue agriculture as their occupation. Fine sandstone and superior limestone are quarried to a large extent. The revenue of the State is about two lakhs. Among the chief crops are rice, wheat, barley and gram. Instruction is given in eight schools, and medical aid in two hospitals. The Chief is entitled to a salute of nine guns. The rulers of Nagod are Parihar Rajputs, who first established themselves on Mount Abu. They subsequently came under the influence of the Chandel Chiefs; and, in the middle of the fourteenth century, one of their successors, Rajah Dhara Singh, seized the fort of Naro from the Teli Rajahs. In 1720 Rajah Chain Singh removed his capital from Unchantra to Nagod. After the treaty of Bassein, Nagod became tributary to Panna. In 1809 during the régime of Lal Sheoraj Singh, the British Government, while confirming him in his possessions, recognised his status and that of his predecessors as independent Chiefs long before Chhatarsal came to power, and even after the supremacy of the Bundelas and of Ali Bahadur. Raghavendra Singh, invested with powers in 1838, plunged the State into debt, and consequently its management was taken under the British. He rendered valuable service during the Mutiny, and received a grant of eleven villages. He obtained the usual sanad of adoption in 1862, and resumed management in 1865, which he continued till his death in 1874. He was succeeded by his son, the present Chief, Rajah Jadavendra Singh, born on the 30th December 1855. Owing to mismanagement, the Rajah was deprived of his powers in 1894, and he now resides at Satna on a monthly allowance. The heir to the *gadi* is Rajkumar Lal Bhargavendra Singh.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH BRIJ MOHAN DEO RAJAH OF KALAHANDI

The hilly and well-wooded feudatory State of Kalahandi, once known as Karond, in Bengal, with several peaks approaching 4,000 feet in elevation, has an area of 3,745 square miles and a population of more than 350,000. The majority of the people are Khonds; next in order come Gahras or Ahirs, Doms and Gonds. Nine-tenths of these speak Uriya, and the rest Khondi. Near the hills the soil being fertile, almost all the grains are raised. The Indravati and the Tel water the land. Tanks which are numerous irrigate nearly three hundred square miles. The annual revenue is about a lakh and a half. There are fifty schools, of which one is for girls. Medical aid is given in four dispensaries. The Chiefs of Kalahandi belong to the Nagbansi clan of Rajputs, descended on the male side from the Rajahs of Satrangarh in Chota Nagpur. For a long time the State seemed to have maintained its independence; but, however, in the middle of the eighteenth century it came under the suzerainty of the Mahrattas. At the Delhi Durbar of 1877, Udit Pratap Deo, in recognition of his valuable services to the British Government, obtained the honour of a personal salute of nine guns, which was subsequently made hereditary. On his death in 1881, the Khonds rose in rebellion, but it was suppressed by the British. He was succeeded by his son, Rajah Raghu Keshar Deo, born in 1871. He met with an early death in 1897, at the hands of an assassin, a servant of his. His minor son, Rajah Brij Mohan Deo, born in 1895, was placed on the *gadi*. The State is now managed by a Political Agent under the orders of the Commissioner of Orissa.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH DHIRAJAH KAMAL DEO MAHARAJAH DHIRAJAH OF KANKER

Kanker is a feudatory State in the Central Provinces. It has an area of 1,429 square miles and a population of about 100,000. The majority of the people are Gonds, and there are also some Halbas. The languages spoken are Chhattisgarhi and Gondi. The State is mostly hilly and well-wooded. The trees grown in the forests are teak and *sal*. The soil is light and sandy. The principal crops are rice and *kodon*. To facilitate the export of forest produce, the State has recently opened a branch line to Dhamtari, thus bringing the forests within reach of the railway. The revenue is nearly two lakhs, the forests alone yielding more than Rs. 60,000. Education is imparted in one vernacular middle school and about twenty primary schools. Medical aid is afforded in one dispensary. The relations between the State and the British Government are controlled by a Political Agent under the supervision of the Commissioner of the Chhattisgarh Division. Kanker, the head-quarters of the State, is a village with 4,000 inhabitants, and it is situated on a small stream, known as the Dudh. The rulers of this principality come of a very old Rajput family. In olden times, it would appear, the position of the Chief of Kanker was determined on the popular vote. When the power of the Haihaivansi dynasty of Chhattisgarh was at its height, he is stated to have been a feudatory to them, exercising his sway over the Dhamtari tract within their jurisdiction. During the Mahratta supremacy, the State had to do feudal service by furnishing a contingent of 500 people on demand. The Rajah lost his territory in 1809, but in 1818 it was restored to him by the British Resident of Nagpur on an annual payment of Rs. 500, which was subsequently remitted. Maharajah Dhirajah Narhar Deo, born in 1850, came to the *gadi* in 1853. The present Chief is His Highness the Maharajah Dhirajah Kamal Deo. At the Delhi Durbar of 1911, His Imperial Majesty was pleased to confer on him a personal salute of nine guns.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH SAHEB SHRIMANT MALOJI RAO VENKAT RAO GHORPADE RAJAH SAHEB OF MUDHOL

The State of Mudhol in the Southern Mahratta country under the political control of the Agent for Kolhapur is 368 square miles in extent It has a population of about 60,000. The majority of the people are Hindus; Mahomedans and Jains make up the rest. It contains three towns, including Mudhol, the residence of the Chief, with a population of 10,000, and eighty-one villages. It has an annual revenue of more than three lakhs, of which it pays the sum of Rs. 2,672 as tribute to the British Government. It is a flat and undulating country with a monotonously barren aspect, except during the rainy season. There are no mountains in it, the small hill ranges being about 150 feet high. The Ghatprabha waters the land, and its annual floods irrigate a considerable area. Among the chief products may be mentioned jowar, wheat, gram and cotton. The weaving of cotton cloth including some articles of female apparel, is the only manufacture of any importance. The climate is dry, and the soil is generally of the black cotton variety. The Durbar maintains a small police force of about 150 officers and men.

For purposes of education there are nearly thirty schools. Medical aid is rendered in one dispensary. Vaccination is popular. The Chief exercises full administrative powers, and also tries his own subjects for capital offences. He disposes of all the appeals against the decisions of the subordinate courts. He holds the usual sanad of adoption, and succession follows the law of primogeniture.

The Bhosle Ghorpade family of Mudhol is one of the most ancient in the Maharashtra. The title *Ghorpade* is said to have been earned by one of the early members of the family under the Bahmini kings by scaling an impregnable fort in the Konkan with the help of a cord attached to the body of a *ghorpad* or white monitor. But there is no authentic record confirming this. It may, however, be mentioned that many families in the Maharashtra assume this distinction and account for it in

several ways. The family is said to be of Rajput origin, connected with the Ranas of Udaipur. It traces its descent, along with that of Shivaji, from Baparawal of Chitoor, through one of his successors, Bhimsi, the founder of Dungarpur and Banswara. The Bhosles of Mudhol have been very influential in the Deccan from the middle of the sixteenth century. Many of them held important military posts under the Bahmini kings. Mudhol, along with its five Mahals, was long held by them in *saranjam* until it was granted in inam by one of the rulers of the Adilshahi dynasty with the title of Rajah and other privileges.

At the time when Shivaji was rising into prominence, the Sultan of Bijapur was anxious to put him down, and in an open durbar he called for any one of his adherents to undertake the work of capturing Shahaji, the father of Shivaji. Baji Raje of Mudhol offered his services, and succeeded in the attempt. Thus the family early showed that loyalty and duty were to them far more than kinship. But in the later struggles with Shivaji, Baji Raje was killed and in this way began the enmity between the two families, which was softened and brought to an end under British influence by the marriage of a princess of the Mudhol house to a member of the Kolhapur family in 1862. In the struggles between Shivaji and the Moghuls, the Ghorpades of Mudhol took sides with the Mahomedans, and it was only in the days of the Peshwas that they joined the Mahratta ranks.

During the first Mahratta war Maloji was the ruler of Mudhol. With two of his sons, Shankroji and Ranoji, he took part in the operations against the English in 1779. In the actions that followed, Ranoji was killed and Maloji wounded. In recognition of their services, inams were conferred on Shankroji and Bahirji Rao, the son of Ranoji. Govind Rao, the eldest son of Maloji, quarrelled with his father and took service under the Nizam. In the battle of Kharda, it would seem, the father and son met in hand to hand fight, and the son was dangerously wounded. Mahar Rao, another son of Maloji, who was left in charge of Mudhol during his father's absence, made himself so unpopular that the people invited a grandson of Maloji Rao to take up the government. Mahar Rao had to leave the country, and he failed in his subsequent attempts to get back to power with the help of the Kolhapur forces. When Maloji died in 1805, Narayan Rao, his grandson, by his son, Govind Rao, became the Chief; and when Narayan Rao passed away in 1816, his youngest son, Venkat Rao, the only son by his first wife, succeeded him. Of his other two sons, Govind Rao and Lakshman Rao, the latter entered the service of the Gaekwar of Baroda. It was during the days of Venkat Rao that a treaty was concluded with the British, and the position of Mudhol as a Protected State became fixed. Venkat Rao died in 1854 and was succeeded by his minor son, Balvant

Rao, when he was only fourteen years old. The country was governed by a Karbhari until the Chief himself was invested with full powers in 1859. But within fourteen months of his accession to power, he died leaving an infant son, Venkat Rao, as heir; and during the long minority of twenty-one years, the State was managed by the Political Officers.

Venkat Rao was invested with full powers in 1882. He was an enlightened Prince and took great interest in the administration of the principality. He carried out many works of public utility. He took special care of his people in the severe famine of 1895-96, and did much to alleviate their suffering. After a reign of eighteen years, he was suddenly cut off in 1900, at the early age of thirty-nine.

He was succeeded by his son, the present Chief, His Highness the Rajah Saheb Shrimant Maloji Rao Venkat Rao Ghorpade, born in 1884. He was invested with full powers in 1904. He is an enlightened and popular ruler and himself looks into every detail of the administration. He was the first among the Southern Mahratta Princes to make primary education free in his State. Much is done to improve agriculture, and the Chief is making many useful experiments for the guidance of his subjects in the several extensive farms owned by him. His Highness the Rajah Saheb enjoys the special appreciation of the Government of Bombay; and they, in recognition of his ability and character, have conferred on him a salute of nine guns.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARANA JASWATSINGHJI BECHARSINGHJI THAKORE SAHEB OF WADHWAN

Wadhwan is a second-class State in Kathiawar, Bombay Presidency. It has an area of 236 square miles with a population of about 30,000. The country is level and has some irrigation facilities. The climate, as in the adjoining parts of Kathiawar, is hot but healthy, and the average rainfall is twenty inches. Cotton and the usual grains are the chief articles of cultivation, and among the manufactures may be mentioned soap-making, weaving and dyeing. There is a ginning factory at the capital, which is a station on the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway. The estimated revenue is more than four lakhs, of which the sum of Rs. 28,692 is paid as tribute to the British Government and the Nawab of Junagarh. The police force numbers 160. There is also a small military force of 175 men, of whom 40 are mounted. A jail, two dispensaries, and twenty-one schools are the principal institutions in the State. The Thakore Saheb exercises full powers and is entitled to a salute of nine guns Prior to the advent of the present Jala Chiefs, the tracts seem to have been successively in the possession of the Valas, the Solankis, the Vaghelas, and the Mahomedans. It was in 1630 that the younger son of Prathi Rajji, the son of Chandra Singh of Dhrangadhra, founded the State of Wadhwan; and his elder brother, Santhanji, established Vankaner. Wadhwan came under British protection at the time of the Kathiawar Settlement in 1807. Dajirajji was the Chief of Wadhwan in 1875. He introduced several reforms into the State. He had a bridge put up across the river Bhojawa at a cost of Rs. 75,000. He spent Rs. 30,000 on the construction of buildings for a school and a dispensary. A salute of nine guns was conferred on him at the Delhi Assemblage of 1877. Thakore Saheb Bal Singhji succeeded to the *gadi* in 1885, and after him came Jaswatsinghji. The present Thakore Saheb is His Highness Jaswatsinghji Becharsinghji.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARANA
SHRI MOHANDEVJI NARAYANDEVJI
RAJAH OF DHARAMPUR

The Dharampur State is in the Surat Political Agency, Bombay, and covers an area of 704 square miles. Its population is about 100,000, spread over one town and 272 villages. The revenue is nearly seven lakhs, of which a tribute of Rs. 9,000 is paid to the British Government. As the major portion of the land is hilly and covered with forests, only a limited area has been brought under cultivation. The State has an abundant supply of water, as a number of rivers traverse it and empty themselves into the Gulf of Cambay. The annual rainfall is about seventy-six inches. The principal crops are rice, pulse, gram and sugarcane. Mats, baskets, fans, molasses, catechu, and pottery are the chief manufactures. The Rajah Saheb exercises full administrative powers. The State force consists of only 200 irregulars, while the strength of the police is about 150, with a small body of nearly thirty men for excise work. There is only one dispensary, and vaccination is popular. No subject of the State can sell land in liquidation of his private debts. The Chiefs of Dharampur are Sesodia Rajputs of the solar race of Udaipur. Time was when Dharampur, also known as Ramnagar, was very extensive, spreading itself westward as far as the sea-coast. In 1576 Todarmal, Akber's minister, who was present at Broach, raised the then Chief of Ramnagar to a high military command. His successors became the rulers of the Surat District with the title of Maharana. In the early part of the eighteenth century, the Mahrattas took by force more than seventy of the villages attached to Dharampur. After the treaty of Bassein, the State came under British protection. H.H. the Maharana Shri Narayandevji Ramdevji, born in 1840, succeeded to the *gadi* in 1860. His son, the present Rajah, His Highness the Maharana Shri Mohandevji Narayandevji, born on the 9th June 1863, was invested with full powers on the 7th August 1891. He is entitled to a salute of nine guns.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH
GAYA PERSHAD SINGH RAGHUVANSI
RAJAH OF BARAUNDA

Baraunda, a small sanad State in Central India, under the Baghelkhand Political Agent, has an area of 218 square miles and a population of about 15,000, spread over seventy villages. 90 per cent. of the people are Hindus, and the rest Animists. Baghelkhandi is the current language. Agriculture is the occupation of the majority of the people. A tenth of the total area is under cultivation. The revenue is about Rs. 20,000 Baraunda, the capital, is ten miles north of Kalinjar, with a population of 2,000. Originally the State comprised almost the whole of the District of Banda, and it was for nearly four hundred years under the sway of chiefs who were the ancestors of the present ruling family. It is also known as Pathar-Kachhar, a name derived from its position on the skirts of the Vindhyas. The Rajahs of Baraunda are Raghuvansi Rajputs, descended from a very ancient family in Central India. They established themselves at first in Rasin in the Banda District, and hence their origina seat is known as *Raj Vasini.* It would appear that when the power of the Bundela Chiefs was at its height, the family ruled over the principality by virtue of a sanad granted to them by Hirde Sah of Panna. It came under British influence in 1807, when they recognised Rajah Mohan Singh as the Chief of Baraunda. As he had no children, he willed his State to his nephew, Sarabjit Singh. The latter received the usual sanad of adoption in 1862. The following year he ceded lands required for the construction of a railway through his territory. In 1877 Raghubir Dayal Singh, the Ruler of Baraunda, obtained the distinction of Rajah Bahadur and a salute of nine guns, which has since become permanent in the ruling family. He passed away in 1885 without any heir, but the choice of the British Government fell on Thakur Prasad Singh, who was placed on the *gadi* in 1886. The present Chief, Rajah Gaya Pershad Singh Raghuvansi, succeeded to the State in 1909.

MAHARAJAH PURNA CHANDRA BHUNJ DEO
MAHARAJAH OF MOURBHANJ

The most important of the Native States of Orissa, and the largest of all the Feudatory States in it, is Mourbhanj (Mayurbhanj), with an area of 4,234 square miles, and a population of 729,848. Its annual revenue is about fifteen lakhs, and it pays a tribute of Rs. 1,068 to the British Government.

Within the territory there are remains of ruined temples, tanks, etc., ndicating a state of prosperity in days gone by. An archæological history of it has recently been compiled and printed, as a result of the archæological surveys and explorations conducted by Babu Nagendra Nath Vasu, M. R. A. S. In 1572 Maharajah Baidya Nath Bhunj Deo, who erected a temple to Jagannath at Baripada, was a believer in Vishnuism as inculcated by Chaitanya. The shrine is still in existence and is visited by thousands of pilgrims.

The revenue department is under the control of the Dewan and his assistants. Forest conservancy forms a principal item of the administration, and it has latterly gained importance owing to the ruthless destruction of forests that has been going on all round with the increase of population. The people are almost all agriculturists and lead an uneventful and contented life. Civil and criminal justice is administered by the State Judge and his assistants. The regular police force is under a Superintendent. The *Paik* force, "the relics of the ancient yeomanry of Orissa," is returned as 972. There is a jail at the capital with three subsidiary jails in the sub-divisions. The Chief governs the State assisted by a Council, composed of four official members. The system of government follows closely the British model with a few modifications to suit local requirements.

Education has made rapid progress within the past twenty years There is an English High School at Baripada, the capital of the State There are besides 431 schools of all kinds distributed over the principality

Medical aid is afforded in seven dispensaries, some of which treat both in-door and out-door patients. The attendance is on the increase, and the people are gradually beginning to appreciate the benefits which these institutions confer on them. There is a Municipality at Baripada which covers an area of two square miles with a population of 6,000. Since 1905 the country has been opened out to the public by a narrow gauge railway line from Baripada to Rupsa junction, a station on the B. N. R. A broad gauge line has recently been constructed by the B. N. R. joining Gurumahisani (noted for the iron ores which have been leased out to the Tata Iron and Steel Company, Limited) to Kalimati, on their line. Two great irrigation bunds have also recently been put up.

The Chiefs of Mourbhanj are Kachhwaha Rajputs claiming descent from Adhi Bhanj connected with the rulers of Jaipur in Rajputana. More than two thousand years ago, Adhi Bhunj left Rajputana, settled down in Orissa, and established his authority over the tracts between the rivers, Subarnarekha and Baitarani, which now comprise the Mourbhanj State. Since his days forty-two Chiefs have held the principality in succession. In 1829 a treaty was entered into between the British Government and Maharajah Jadunath Bhunj Deo Bahadur, whereby he promised allegiance and loyalty to them. At the Delhi Durbar of 1877, the personal distinction of Maharajah was conferred on Rajah Krishna Chandra Bhunj Deo. His son, the late Maharajah Sri Ram Chandra Bhunj Deo, was born at Baripada in January 1872. He was educated at the Cuttack College, and assumed the reins of administration in 1892. He was a guest of the Government of India at the Imperial Delhi Durbar on the 1st January 1903, when the personal distinction of "Maharajah" was conferred on him. It was made hereditary in 1910. In the same year the Chief made a tour round the world, and visited China, Japan, America and England. He died on the 22nd February 1912, at Calcutta from the after-effects of an accident which had occurred to him sometime ago while bear-shooting in his State, when he was struck by a spent bullet. His son, Maharajah Purna Chandra Bhunj Deo, is the present Chief.

MAHARAJAH PRITHVI RAJ DEO
MAHARAJAH OF PATNA

The feudatory State of Patna in Bengal is an undulating plain in the valley of the Mahanadi. It occupies an area of 2,399 square miles, and has a population of about 300,000, spread over 1,850 villages, with a density of 116 persons per square mile. The majority of the people are Oriyas, and their language is Oriya. Some of the most important castes are Ahirs, Gandas, Khonds, Gonds and Savaras. The rivers, Suktel and Barabhailat, pass through the country. Nearly a fifth of the country is under cultivation, and about a third is in the occupation of Zamindars and other landholders on special tenures. The northern and southern parts are fertile and well-wooded. Among the crops raised are rice, pulses and cotton. Although there are four rivers in the State, wells and tanks, which number nearly three thousand, constitute the chief source of irrigation. The soil, in general, is light and sandy, but there are also black soil tracts in the north. Almost half the principality is covered with forests, timber being their principal produce, with a little teak at the entrance. As the railway is a long way off from the State, the products are not of great economic value. Iron is smelted for agricultural implements. All the exports go to Sambalpur. Among the principal routes are those leading from Sambalpur by Bargarh to Bolangir and on to Bhawani Patna, the Bolangir-Sonpur road, and the road leading from Raipur to Vizianagram, which runs thirteen miles through Patna. The annual revenue of the State is a little over two lakhs, of which the sum of Rupees 8,500 is paid as tribute to the British Government. Instruction is imparted in one English and one vernacular middle school, a girls' school, and nearly forty primary schools. Medical aid is afforded in one dispensary.

The revenue is collected through village headmen who receive a percentage of the assets. The tribal chiefs, who are paid for the work, are responsible for the collections from the forest Khonds occupying the tracts called Kondhan. Assessment on the soil unit system obtains in the

areas comprising Angar, Soranda and Patnagarh. The Chhatisgarh States division managed the public works of the Patna principality from 1893 to 1904, during which period a sum of Rupees two lakhs and a half was spent on laying roads, and also on the construction of a palace for the Chief, a court-house and a dispensary. The relations between the State and the British Government are controlled by a Political Agent under the orders of the Commissioner of Orissa.

The Chiefs of Patna, at one time, exercised sway over an extensive territory, and also over a group of States which constituted the Athara Garhjat (eighteen forts). They come of a family of Chauhan Rajputs who established themselves in Patna more than six hundred years ago. Tradition has it that their ancestor, a Rajput prince near Mainpuri, fled from his country owing to the Mahomedan incursions, and on arriving at Patna, he fell in battle. His wife, who was pregnant, gave birth to a son in the hut of a Binjhal, who had given her refuge. Patna was then split up into eight divisions with a Chief for each of them. The boy, Ramai Deo, on coming of age, killed all of them, and set himself up as the ruler of Patna. In course of time large and extensive tracts were added to the State, and several principalities within those areas became tributaries to it. The twelfth in succession, Rajah Narsingh Deo, conferred on his brother, Balram Deo, the territories north of the Ong river. After Balram Deo had founded the new State of Sambalpur and enlarged it in all possible ways, the importance of Patna gradually declined. When Sambalpur came under the control of the Mahrattas in the eighteenth century, Patna also acknowledged their supremacy. In 1869 the Khonds of Patna rebelled against Maharajah Sur Pratap Deo and his brother, Lal Bishnath Singh, owing to their tyranny. It was speedily put down by the intervention of the British, who held an immediate enquiry into the matter, and as a result deposed the Chief, and brought the State under their own control. On his death in 1878, his nephew, Ramachandra Singh, born in 1872, was recognised as ruler. He was educated at the Rajkumar College, Jubbulpore, and was invested with full powers in 1894. He came to an untimely end by shooting himself and his wife, while in a state of insanity. He was followed by his uncle, Maharajah Dalganjan Singh, who ruled the tracts aided by a minister, with large judicial powers. The present Chief, Maharajah Prithvi Raj Deo, who succeeded to the *gadi* in 1910, is the thirty-second in descent from the progenitor of the family. He is ably assisted by his Dewan, Mr. Balmakund Bohidar, in the administration of the State, which is doing very well under him.

MAHARAJAH SRI BIR MITRODAYA SINGH DEO BAHADUR MAHARAJAH OF SONEPUR

Sonepur, a feudatory State in Bengal, covers an area of 906 square miles, and has a population of about 215,716. In 1905 it was transferred from the Central Provinces to Bengal. It is an undulating plain, with small isolated hills. The Mahanadi, the Ong, and the Suktel, are the only rivers of importance. A fourth of the area is under cultivation. There are nearly 2,000 tanks which irrigate about forty square miles. The forests are situated along the borders of the State, the products of which find a ready sale in the country itself. Among the industries are the weaving of coarse cotton cloth and *tasar* silk, and the exports consist only of agricultural produce. The revenue of the State is nearly a *lakh* and a half, of which the sum of Rs. 9,000 is paid as tribute to the British Government. Sonepur, the capital, is situated on the Mahanadi. The local manufactures are brass images, gold-, silver-, and copper-work, and hardware. Education is imparted in thirty institutions, including one High English School, and one middle English School, a vernacular middle school, two girls' schools, and a Sanskrit school. Medical aid is afforded in two dispensaries.

The Chiefs of Sonepur trace their descent from the famous Chauhan Rajput rulers, of whom Prithivi Raj was the last Emperor of Delhi. In the twelfth century, these first established themselves at Patna, as overlords of a cluster of States, then known as Athara Garhjat, in a tract lying to the north of Chota Nagpur, and to the east of the District of Bilaspur. The branch of the family of the Chauhan Chiefs of Patna near Sambalpur which founded a new line of rulers at Sonepur, began to exercise sway about the middle of the sixteenth century with Madan Gopal Singh Deo Bahadur as the first Rajah. The State came under British influence during the days of Rajah Niladhar Singh Deo Bahadur, born in 1838. The British recognized the rulers of Sonepur as Feudatory Chiefs having full sovereign powers in all matters of internal administration subject to a certain limitation. The Rajah was extremely popular and very loyal. It is on record that there was "recognition of meritorious services rendered by him to the British Government at a time when the Indian Empire had not settled down into the general peace and prosperity which it now enjoys. Times have changed since Niladhar Singh Deo Bahadur loyally assisted the British Government in putting down rebellion and



THE MAHARAJAH OF SONEPUR

anarchy in the Sambalpur District." On his death in 1891, he was succeeded by his son, Rajah Rudra Pratap Singh Deo Bahadur. He followed in the foo steps of his father, and was complimented in high terms by the Government of India for the improved methods of administration introduced by him. After him came his son, the present Chief, Maharajah Sri Bir Mitrodaya Singh Deo Bahadur, born in August 1874. He is the twelfth of the rulers, and succeeded to the *gadi* in September 1902. When he was young, he gave promise of his future greatness, and the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces remarked of him: "I have been most favourably impressed with his intelligence, energy, and zeal, and with the excellence of his character." He has travelled almost all over India. He was present at the Delhi Durbar of 1903. In 1908 he obtained the personal distinction of *Maharajah.* Sir Andrew Fraser, the late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, at a public durbar held in that year spoke of the Maharajah in the following terms:—

It was over thirty years ago that I first visited Sonepur, and ever since I have been on terms of friendship and intimacy with your house. It has been a great pleasure to me to see the excellent example which you have set to all the Chiefs of Orissa. You enjoy the reputation of a very good ruler, shrewd, economical, just and reasonably progressive. Since your State was attached to Orissa in 1905, you have been under the Government of Bengal, and I, as the head of this Government, have to thank you not only for the general good administration of your State, but also for the help you have given me in making arrangements connected with the re-constitution of Orissa.

Mr. Garrett, the Commissioner of the Orissa Division, congratulated the Chief in 1900 on the excellent progress made by the principality in every one of its departments.

At the last Durbar held by His Excellency the Viceroy at Cuttack, the Maharajah of Sonepur was given precedence over all the Chiefs assembled on that occasion. The *Muktimandap* of Puri, the Premier Brahman Sabha of Orissa, has recently conferred on the Maharajah the distinction of *Dharmanidhi* on account of his liberality and pious deeds. At the Delhi Coronation Durbars of 1903 and 1911, the Maharajah obtained medals on both the occasions from the Government.

Maharajah Sri Bir Mitrodaya Singh Deo Bahadur is very popular, and has earned the reputation of a just ruler. He is a lover of literature, and patron of learning. In many villages of his State he has established primary schools for boys and for girls. He has published translations in Oriya of some Sanskrit classics, and has employed a well-known antiquary to write a complete history of Sonepur.

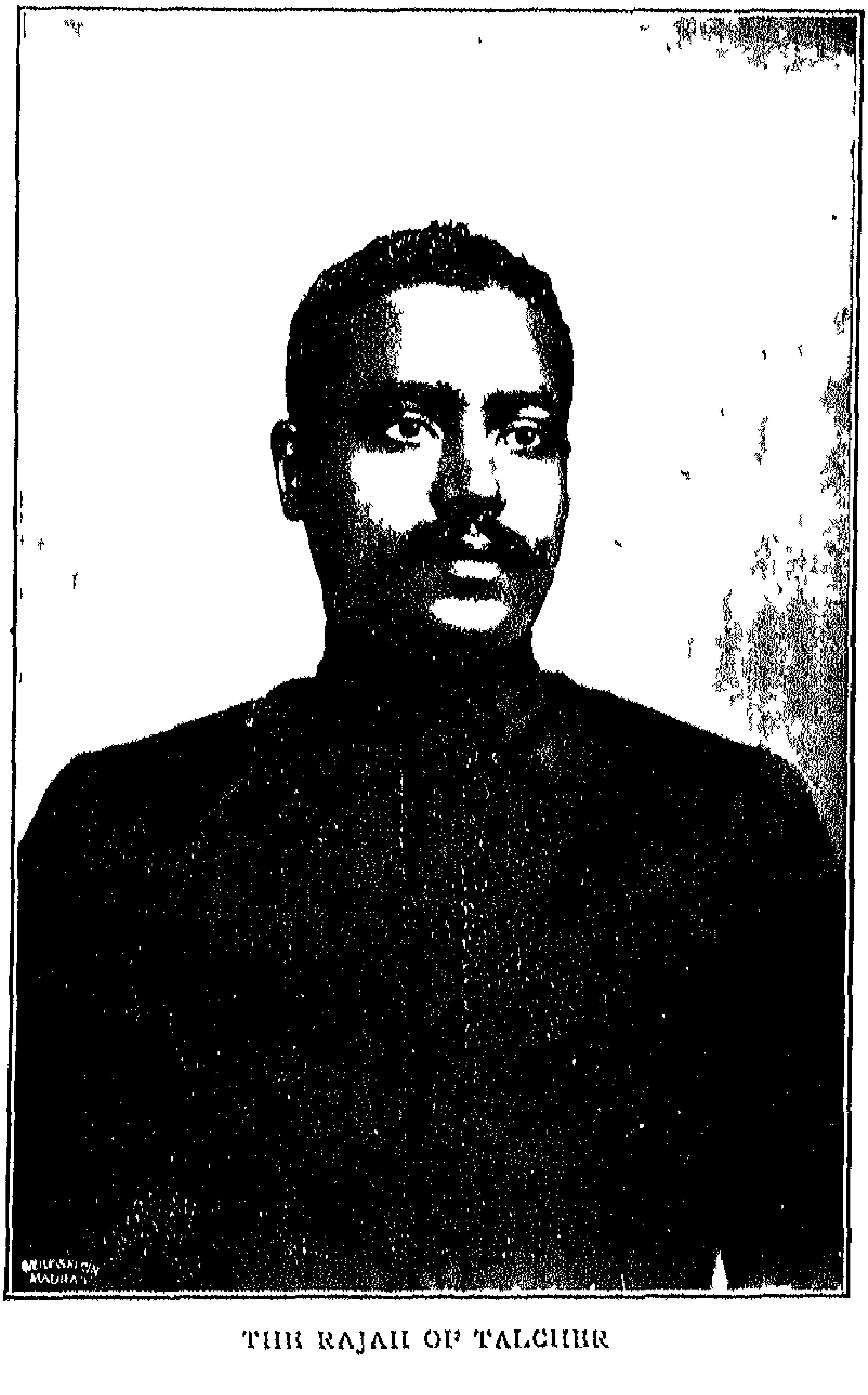
RAJAH KISHORE CHANDRA BIRABAR HARICHANDAN
RAJAH OF TALCHER

Compassed on all sides by the Feudatory States of Pal-Lahara, Dhenkanal, and Bamra, the State of Talcher in Bengal covers an area of 399 square miles, with a population of 65,206. Hinduism is the prevailing religion, but the hill tribes, of whom there are many, are demon-worshippers. The revenue of the State is nearly three lakhs of rupees, of which the sum of Rs. 1,040 is paid as tribute to the British Government. The Chief exercises full powers, both civil and criminal. The durbar maintains a regular police force, and there is a jail at the capital. Medical aid is given in a free dispensary for both in-and out-patients. Education is now spreading more widely than before.

The country is full of beautiful hills and dales, and is traversed by the Brahmani. Situated on both sides of the river, and on the spur of the great Indian table-land, Talcher has one of the finest climates in Orissa, and it may one day become an important sanitarium for Bengal. The soil consists of sandy clay, which is disintegrated rocky matter, and is highly productive. The river washes down some gold; coal occurs at Gopalprosad; and iron is found almost everywhere. The import consists mainly of Madras salt and goods of European manufacture; and the exports are corn, hides, timber, and various other forest products, such as lac, catechu, tasar, cocoon and nux vomica.

The boundaries of the State at the time of its establishment were on the north, Ganglon in Bamra; on the south and east, Kamalang and Altuma in Dhenkanal; and on the west, the States of Bamra and Angul. Ladhara Ramchandi, Parjang, Palasuni, and Subaloya were lost to the Rajah of Puri, who made them over to his ally, the Rajah of Dhenkanal. Ganglon was conquered by Bamra.

The present Chief is the twenty-second in descent from Rajah Sakrasen of the Jaipur Rana Thakur family, who belonged to the ancient Surjya Bansha (solar race). A younger son of this Prince went on a pilgrimage to Puri, and



THE RAJAH OF TALCHER

on his way back, set up for himself an independent fort at Ladhara under the name of Bhimnagari. The temple of the goddess Ramchandi in Dhenkanal now marks the spot. Next came his son, Rajah Uday Kar Bira Singh, who conquered Parjang and Subaloya. His son and successor, Rajah Govind Birabar, was the first to assume the title of Harichandan. Then followed six more generations, and the last of these, Rajah Padmanabh Birabar Harichandan, left Subaloya. He named the place Talcher, after the goddess Taleswari, who, it would appear, made him victorious over his enemies. The goddess Hingula Debi is also said to have befriended him in a battle in the shape of a royal Bengal tiger, which thus became the State insignia. The annual worship of her is held at Gopalprosad on the fourteenth moon day of Chaitra (May), when thousands of pilgrims gather together. Then came Rajah Chakradhar Birabar Harichandan, whose son Gopinath succeeded him in 1651.

Until 1803 the ruler of the State was a feudatory of the Mahrattas. In November of that year he entered into a treaty with the British Government, whereby he engaged himself to be loyal and submissive to them.

The present Rajah's grandfather, Rajah Dayanidhi Birabar Harichandan, helped the British troops at the time of the rebellion of the Angul Rajah, and was rewarded with the title of Mahendra Bahadur, a khilat, and an elephant.

The Ruling Chief, Rajah Kishore Chandra Birabar Harichandan, born on the 9th June 1880, succeeded his father, Rajah Ram Chandra Birabar Harichandan, in December 1891. During his minority the State was managed by the Court of Wards, and he was educated at the Cuttack Ravenshaw Collegiate School. In his younger days, he was eager to learn and studied hard; and not unmindful of his physical education, he entered heartily into all the games and manly exercises, and distinguished himself in athletics. He is an intrepid rider.

His formal installation took place on the 9th June 1901, when he attained his legal majority. He married the fourth daughter of the late Rajah Sir Basudeb Sudhal Deb, K.C.I.E., of Bamra. He has two sons and one daughter. The first Prince was born on the 27th February 1902; the second, on the 12th September 1903; and the Princess, on the 10th December 1900. The capital and the palace are beautifully situated on the Brahmani. The Chief is generous, popular and patriotic.

RAJAH BIRABAR KRISHNA CHANDRA SINGH DEO BAJRADHAR NARENDRA MAHAPATRA RAJAH OF RANPUR

Ranpur, one of the Feudatory States of Orissa, is situated within the District of Puri. It claims to be the most ancient of all the Orissa Tributary States, and its long list of Chiefs covers a period of over 3,600 years. It occupies an area of 203 square miles. It has a population of 45,964, of whom the majority are Hindus, and the Mahomedans number about 300. It is one of the finest Gurjat States, abounding in numerous natural beauties and having a serene climate. A series of mountain ranges, running parallel to one another, form the natural bulwark along the western side, and screen it from another Feudatory State, Nayagarh, while it is bounded on the other three sides by the District of Puri. The most important of these hill ranges is the Mainak. It is of historic fame, and takes its name from the presiding deity of the place, whose shrine is built on its top. The next in importance is the Gounia, the highest peak in the State, covered with a dense forest. The country is well watered by a number of rivulets that take their rise from the mountainous tracts of the western frontier and flow eastward down to the Chilka Lake, which is only a few miles off from its boundary.

Ranpur, the capital, lies at the foot of the Mainak and is noted for its excellent situation and picturesque scenery. In days gone by, the place was surrounded by thick jungles, and there was hardly any means of communication. Not only is the principal town, but even the innermost recesses are now accessible to the outlying parts. There are abundant materials to show that the place was once a famous seat of architecture and sculpture; but it has shared the fate of other places remarkable for their industries and manufactures. The workmanship displayed in the engraving of the two lions erected at the gate of the Jagannath temple is simply excellent. The weavers of the place make a fine kind of cloth, prized all over Orissa and elsewhere. Ranpur

is fourteen miles from the Kalupura Ghat station of the East Coast section of the Bangal-Nagpur Railway, and about ten miles from the Madras trunk road, with which it is connected by a feeder road. The State maintains an English middle school, three upper primary, and forty lower primary schools, and a dispensary.

The Raj family is noted for its great antiquity and noble descent. *Kapila Sanhita*, a celebrated treatise among the Hindus, makes mention of it and refers to a long line of powerful and illustrious Chiefs who had travelled beyond Ranpur and made their name at Puri, Brindaban, and other places of sanctity. The book traces the family to the famous solar dynasty, from which Maharajah Prithwiraj and other celebrated personages claim their descent. Till now there have been a hundred and ten generations of Rajahs who ruled over Ranpur. Rajah Vikrama was the first to bear the title of Narendra. The ninety-seventh in succession from him, Kunjavihari Narendra, won the additional titles of Bajradhar and Mahapatra, which have been enjoyed by all his successors.

The present Chief, Rajah Birabar Krishna Chandra Singh Deo Bajradhar Narendra Mahapatra, has been managing the affairs of the State with remarkable ability and eminent success. Though young in age, he is ripe in wisdom. He succeeded his revered father, Rajah Birabar, Benudhar Bajradhar Narendra Mahapatra in 1899, when he was vested with all the powers of a Feudatory Chief. Since then he has been carrying on the administration with admirable skill, assisted by his Dewan, Babu Gopinath Nayak, who exercises the dual functions of a first-class Magistrate and Munsiff. All appeals against the orders of the Dewan are disposed of by the Chief. There are thus two Courts in the State—a lower court presided over by the Dewan, and a higher one under the control of the Chief.

The Rajah Sahib is very kind to his subjects, who show him every respect and hold him in great affection. He has improved the State in many ways. It is gratifying to note that there have been no troubles in Ranpur since his accession to the *gadi*, which testifies in no small degree to his tact and administrative skill.

RAJAH BISWAMBAR BIRABAR MANGARAJ MAHAPATRA RAJAH OF BARAMBA

Bounded on all sides by the Feudatory States of Hindol, Dhenkanal Tigiria, Khandapara, and Narsinghpur, the little State of Baramba covers an area of 134 square miles, and has a population of 41,429. The most numerous castes are Chasas and Pans, and a few Buddhists are still found in one or two villages. The Kanaka Peak (2,038 feet), the highest point of a hill range of the same name, is situated on the northern border. The revenue is more than half a lakh, of which the sum of Rs. 1,398 is paid as tribute to the British Government. A good fair-weather road connects Baramba and Narsinghpur on one side, and Tigiria on the other, joining the old Cuttack-Sambalpur road above Sankarpur in Dhenkanal. Excellent cotton and silk cloth are manufactured at the village of Maniabundha. The State maintains a vernacular middle school, two upper primary, and nearly fifty lower secondary schools, and a dispensary.

There is no authentic record, from which a correct history of the State can be traced out. It is traditionally believed that the principality was founded in A. D. 1305 by one Hatakishore Raut, a wrestler to Kishor[1] Narsing, the ruler of Orissa. In recognition of his valour, he was granted two villages, Sankha and Mohuri, at present united into one and called Sankhameri, on the north bank of the river Mahanadi. There is nothing to show the extent of those two villages. It is said that they were then inhabited by Khonds, who were driven from their residence to the interior of the hills towards the north. Hatakishore's possession extended to the present *garh*, which was about eight square miles in area. His brother, Malakishore Raut, who was also a wrestler and companion, succeeded him. This Chief enlarged his dominions towards the west up to Ogalpur on the north bank of the Mahanadi. He discovered from the adjoining forests the temple of the goddess Bhotarika, known also as Bruhadamba or Bardamba (great mother). Out of reverence to her, he designated the State "Baramba." It is still believed by the masses that

Baramba is the territory of the great mother Bhatarika. The area of the State then was about sixteen square miles. The fourth Chief, Jambeswar Raut, conquered the Khand ruler of Kharod and added twenty square miles to his State. His successor, Bholeswar Raut, overcame the Khandayat Chief of Amatia and extended his territory to the Ratapat village, the present western boundary of Baramba. Kanhu Raut, the next ruler, had, as the limit of the principality, Mohulia, about five miles east of the headquarters. The eighth Rajah, Nabin Raut, made a further extension from Bidharpur in the east to Ratapat in the west, sixteen miles in length, and from the range of hills towards the north on the borders of Hindol to the river Mahanadi in the south, about eight miles in breadth. The State rose to its highest eminence during his reign. In the time of the twelfth Chief, Krishna Chandra Mangaraj, the Mahrattas invaded Baramba and left it on his acknowledging their supremacy, and agreeing to pay them an annual tribute of 6,335 Kahans of cowries (shells). The seventeenth Chief, Padmalava Birabar Mangaraj Mahapatra, was an imbecile. At the beginning of his rule, the Rajah of Khandapara captured the State and held it for thirteen months. It was restored to him on the interference of the Rajah of Khurdha (Puri). At this time, many a warrior attached to the Rajah of Khandapara fell in battle near the Sunamuhi bandha in the gurh, leaving his khanda (sword) on the field. Hence the village is called Khandamal. In the latter part of Padmalava's reign, the Rajah of Narsinghpur proceeded against the State and seized two main ports, Ratapat and Kharade. These were made over to him when pressed by the Mahrattas. The north-eastern border was subsequently conquered by the Rajah of Dhenkanal, who annexed the two big villages of Kalikaprasad and Jhumpuria, which had formed part of Baramba. Several temples, the most prominent of them being the one dedicated to Gopinath Deb, owe their existence to Padmalava. Next came in succession, Pindik Birabar Mangaraj Mahapatra (1793-1841), Gopinath Birabar Mangaraj Mahapatra (1841-69), and Dasarathi Birabar Mangaraj Mahapatra (1869-81).

It is said that the Rajahs of this State got the titles, Raut, Mangaraj, Mangaraj Mahapatra, and Birabar Mangaraj Mahapatra from the rulers of Puri, to whom they had been vassals in former days, when that family exercised suzerainty in Orissa, extending from the Carnatic to Bengal (Gour).

The present Chief, Rajah Biswambar Birabar Mangaraj Mahapatra, born in 1880, succeeded to the *gadi* as a child, barely a year old. During his minority, the State was under the management of the Court of Wards. When he came of age, he was entrusted with full powers. He is a cultured Prince of good principles, and governs the State with credit to himself and benefit to his subjects.

RAJAH UDIT NARAIN SINGH DEO BAHADUR
RAJAH OF SERAIKELLA

The feudatory State of Seraikella in the Orissa District, Bengal, has an area of 449 square miles, and a population of 106,125. Its annual revenue is about Rs. 1,25,000. It was originally known as *Sorasa Kola* (sorasa, meaning sixteen, and kola, parts, or stages of the waning moon). It contains numerous hills and hillocks, well-wooded, which present a pleasant scenery during the rainy and winter seasons. Rivers and streams, such as the Kharkai, the Sanjai, the Suna, and the Bonghonga, of which the first is the largest, water the tracts. Although the soil abounds in gravel and fragments of stone, it is very fertile yielding abundant corn and herbage, but the growth of trees is stunted on account of the layers of rock under-ground. The climate is fairly good.

The Chief exercises unlimited powers in civil and revenue matters, but in criminal cases, only those of a first-class Magistrate The State maintains a small military force, which acts as a bodyguard to the Rajah, and preserves peace in the State. There is also a regular police.

The Rajahs of Seraikella claim their descent from Sibjee, a most prominent member of the Rathor dynasty of Jodhpur. Gaja Singh or Man Singh, Ajoy Singh or Dhan Singh, Bijoy Singh or Dhutur Singh, three of the brothers of Kuhal Singh, a great-grandson of Sibjee, went on a pilgrimage to Puri, when the Rajah of that country, hearing of their high lineage, offered his daughters in marriage to them. The proud princes declined the offer, and they were cast in prison. Shortly afterwards, an elephant of the Rajah that was in rut, went about killing men and animals,and none had the courage to approach it. One of the princes, who was released on request, mounted the animal, sat astride its neck, and killed it with his sword. This act won the admiration of the Rajah, who ordered the immediate discharge of the other two princes. They proceeded to Bonai,where one of them was adopted by the ruler of that territory, as he had no issue. Gaja Singh and Dhana Singh became the Chiefs of Purahat and Saranda respectively. Subsequently

Sarenda was merged in Purahat, as Dhana Singh died without leaving an heir. Some centuries later, one of their descendants, Bikram Singh Deo, founded the State of Seraikella, which came under British protection in 1803 during the time of Lord Wellesley. Abhiram Singh Deo, the great-grandfather of the present ruler, rendered valuable service to them in their war with Bhonsla, in recognition of which the Viceroy placed it on record that he would always be friendly with the Rajah, and that the Government would never demand any tribute from him or his successors. Rajah Azembar Singh, grandson of Rajah Abhiram Singh, was complimented in high terms by the Board of Directors for the help given them on the occasion of the Kol rebellion in 1834. After him came his son, Rajah Chakredhar Singh, who proved of great service to them during the critical and trying days of the Mutiny. It was through his aid that the sepoys who had looted the Chaibassa treasury were arrested and punished. He saved the life of Mr. Sismore, the Deputy Commissioner of Sighbhum, by giving him refuge in his palace, and ultimately sent him safe to Calcutta under the escort of his brother. The British Government presented the Rajah with a kilat of Rs. 10,000, one revolver, twelve guns, ornaments, and Rs. 2,000 in cash. He was again the recipient of a substantial gift when he assisted them in putting down the Purahat revolt. He was succeeded by his son, the present Chief.

Rajah Udit Narain Singh Deo Bahadur, born in 1849, mounted the *gadi* in 1885. He received his education under private tutors, and is well versed in Sanskrit, Urdu, Hindi, Bengali and Uriya. He is the author of many useful books, as Sangit Chintamoni, Krishna Nila Mritu, Radhahridoy, Gita Bali, Deba Debi Stotra, etc. In 1888 and 1891, during the disturbances in the States of Bonai and Keunjhar, the Rajah helped the Government to the best of his power. They appreciated his services and presented him a gun, with a suitable inscription engraved on it. He is very kind and sympathetic to his subjects. A charity hospital and a free school owe their existence to him. He has recently erected in the town, at a great cost, a temple of exquisite workmanship. His grandson, Jubraj Aditya Pratap Singh Deo, who is the heir-apparent, has passed the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University, and possesses a good knowledge of English, Bengali and Uriya. He has married a daughter of the late Maharajah Ram Chandra Bhunj Deo, Feudatory Chief of Patna, and is blessed with a son and two daughters.

The Rajah, who is advanced in age, governs with moderation and wisdom, and is greatly loved by his subjects. In times of necessity the neighbouring rulers look up to him for counsel; and the Chief is most loyal to the Paramount Power.

RAJAH SURAPRATAP MAHINDRA BAHADUR
RAJAH OF DHENKANAL.

Dhenkanal is a feudatory State among the Gujarat Mahals of Orissa. It covers an area of 1,463 square miles and has a population of 269,853. Its annual revenue is about three lakhs, of which the sum of Rs. 5,099 is paid as tribute to the British Government. Two detached villages belonging to it—Kabatabanda and Gallimanapatna—lie outside in the adjoining British District of Cuttack. The Brahmini river flows in an easterly direction through the Principality, dividing it into two natural divisions, the northern and the southern. The country interspersed with hills and forests presents a very picturesque appearance. The northern and the southern parts are well-wooded, and the rest of the Province consists of open patches of forests and small hills relieving the monotony of the scene. The Kapilas are the chief hills, about 2,250 feet above the sea-level, in the south-eastern part of the State, well-known all through Orissa as a place of pilgrimage, with a temple dedicated to Chandrashekhara Jeo. Many old architectural monuments, dating from the time of Pratap Rudra Deo, the King of Orissa, are also found there. An annual fair is held in the shrine on the Sivarathri day. Satsejia is another hill in the south-west, 2,000 feet high. Each of these hills has perennial falls, the waters of which are said to be very healthy. These add greatly to the beauty of the peaks. The Ramial and the Lingra, tributaries to the Brahmini, and the Sapua, a branch of the Mahanadi, are other streams of importance. Weekly markets are held in several places. The State maintains a well-organized charity dispensary, besides another in the Baisingha sub-division. It also supports a high school in addition to fifteen upper primary and 220 lower primary schools. Bhuban, with a population of 7,000, which has a local reputation for its manufacture of bell-metal ware, is a town in Dhenkanal, on the north bank of the Brahmani, about fourteen miles from Jenapur station on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. The country seems to be rich in mineral resources, but these need prospecting and working. Gold in small quantities is



THE RAJAH OF DHENKANAL

obtained from surface washings. Iron is smelted on a small scale. Mica is found in the Kapilas, and coal is met with here and there. There are nearly 175 miles of good metalled road in the Principality. Tassar cloth manufactured from cocoons in the State forest, and cotton cloths on a small scale, are the chief textile industries. Bell-metal and brass utensils are also made in some villages, and lac is obtained from the koosum trees. For administrative purposes the State is divided into two divisions, containing twenty-four parganas with 968 villages. It takes its name after Dhenka Sabar, one of the early Savar Chiefs of these tracts.

The present ruling house belongs to the famous Yaduvansa dynasty of Rajputs. It would appear that, at the beginning of the sixteenth century, three brothers, Gobind Sinha, Hari Sinha, and Janardhana Sinha, left their original homes in Rajputana, went to Puri, took service under Pratap Rudra Deo, and rose to great power by their talents. Gobind Sinha became Prime Minister, and eventually King of Orissa; Hari Sinha was the Commander-in-Chief, and founded the Dhenkanal State. The third brother, Janardhan, successfully held the offices of Finance Minister and Prime Minister. All the three were invested with the title of *Bidyadhar.* After Gobind Bidyadhar assumed the royalty over Orissa, his brother, Hari Bidyadhar, accompanied him in his expeditions to South India; and, as a reward for his great deeds of valour, he was given a jaghir, which now forms a portion of the Principality of Dhenkanal. He was also permitted to use, as his family ensign, the *minaketan kalari* and the *minaketan pagri* (dagger and head-gear with the insignia of fish and banner) which he had wrested from a famous South Indian Chief. Being a renowned warrior, Hari Bidyadhar greatly extended his dominions by subduing the surrounding petty Chiefs, and proved a powerful ruler in those parts. He visited Gajapathi Maharajah of Puri, who conferred on him the distinctions of *Rai Sinha Bhramarbar* and *Jarkhandā Padshaha,* and also granted him, as a kinsman and illustrious warrior, many special privileges of worship in the famous temple of Jagannath, which the Rajahs of Dhenkanal enjoy to this day. Hari Bidyadhar, the founder, held sway over Dhenkanal from 1529 to 1584 A. D., and under him the State became consolidated. After him came in regular succession seven rulers, Lokenath Sinha (1584-1606), Balabadra Rai Sinha (1606-1632), Neelakanta Rai Sinha (1632-1652), Krisenna Rai Sinha (1652-1694), Kangabihari Rai Sinha (1694-1720), Erajabihari Rai Sinha (1720-1744), and Damodara Rai Sinha (1744-1746), whose reigns covered about 170 years. The ninth occupant of the *gadi* was Trilochan Mahindra Bahadur, from 1746 to 1788. During his time, the Mahrattas were very powerful in Central India, and the Rajah of Nagpur compelled him to pay tribute. Owing to some misunder-

standing, a war broke out between Dhenkanal and Nagpur, and a battle was fought in 1781. The Nagpur Durbar, appreciating the valour of Trilochan, remitted half the tribute payable by him, and bestowed on him the title of *Mahindra Bahadur*, still held by the Rulers of Dhenkanal. The original title of *Rai Sinha Bhramarbar* was then adopted by the heir-apparent. He received other presents, such as *dhansa* (big drum), and *chadanali* (a kind of match-lock).

Trilochan enlarged the limits of the State, and built many forts. Four rulers came after him until 1832, Dayanidi Mahindra Bahadur (1788-1798), Ramchandra Mahindra Bahadur (1798-1812), Krishnachandra Mahindra Bahadur (1812-1822), and Shyamsundra Mahindra Bahadur (1822-1832). Nothing of importance seems to have taken place during their time.

Maharajah Bhagirath Mahindra Bahadur was the Chief for a long term of forty-five years, from 1832 to 1877. His rule is the most important in the annals of modern Dhenkanal. He was a profound Sanskrit scholar, a liberal patron of learning, and an able administrator. During his reign many reforms were effected; the land tenures were settled; a good system of accounts was brought into working order; schools came into existence in large numbers; dispensaries were opened; jails and court-houses were constructed. In appreciation of his administration, the Government of India granted him the distinction of *Maharajah*. His charities in the matter of education went even beyond the borders of his State. He gave large donations to the Ravenshaw College and to the Medical School at Cuttack. His help to the Cuttack Printing Company was highly appreciated, as it was very opportune. He was known all over the country for his respectability and liberality, and always surrounded himself with several orthodox pundits and scholars. As there was none to succeed him, he adopted as his heir, before his death in 1877, Deenabhandu, the youngest brother of the Chief of Baud. But this Prince did not live long. He died in 1885, while the State was still under the Court of Wards, leaving behind him an infant son, six months old, the present Chief, to inherit the Principality. His widow, a daughter of the Chief of Bonai, brought up the child, Rajah Surapratap Mahindra Bahadur, with very great care.

The young Prince was educated at the Ravenshaw Collegiate School. His mother was an able and pious lady, who exercised a very wholesome influence on him. She was well-known for her charitable disposition, and devoted herself to many good works. She built a big temple dedicated to Narayana at Kapilas. The Chief was entrusted with ruling powers in 1906, after the State had enjoyed the benefits of sound British administration for nearly thirty years. He has married a grand-

daughter of the Chief of Seraikella. He has three sons, the eldest of whom is Yuvaraj Sankara Pratap Rai Sinha Bhramarbar. The Rajah is very enlightened and takes a great interest in his work. He has brought the administration to a high standard of efficiency. Forests have been reserved and made an important asset of the Principality, yielding a large annual revenue. Many irrigation canals have been opened. By a good distribution of bulls and stallions, the breed of cattle and horses has been much improved. Special attention is paid to the industrial development of the country. The Rajah does everything in his power to advance weaving, carpentry, filigree work, horn and ivory works, and other industries. Students are sent out with scholarships for the purpose of obtaining a sound technical education. A magnificent building has been erected for a High School, commemorating the name of his illustrious grandfather. The capital has been adorned with many substantial buildings. Facilities are given to tenants to improve agriculture by means of grants and loans and by the free gift of timber for house-building. The police force has been reorganised, and the criminal tribes of Pans have been reclaimed by giving lands and by opening special schools for them. The mica mines are carefully worked under the direct control of the Chief. Good arrangements are made for catching and taming elephants, abounding in the State forests. A special cess has been levied with a view to extend the benefits of instruction to the poorest subjects and to the remotest corners of the Principality. Courts have been remodelled; and an asylum, called the *Sankarashram*, for the old and infirm cows, has been constructed. Samities have been started in every Brahmin village to encourage education on orthodox lines. A sum of more than Rs. 30,000 was spent in giving relief to the poor during the famine of 1908-09. The Chief also induced the leading rich men of the State to distribute cash and grain to the famine-stricken. Those who came forward to help the needy were honored with medals, certificates, and titles by the Political Agent at the instance of the Rajah. In recognition of his good work as an administrator, the Government of India invested him in 1909 with the powers of a Sessions Judge.

The young Ruler of Dhenkanal, Rajah Surapratap Mahindra Bahadur, has many years of useful life before him, and there is no doubt that he will add greatly to his fame by working strenuously for the good of his people.

RAJAH SATCHIDANANDA TRIBHUBAN DEB
RAJAH OF BAMRA

To the east of the British District of Sambalpur and surrounded by the Principalities of Gangpur, Bonai, Pal-Lahara, Talcher, and Rairakhol, is the State of Bamra, about 2,000 square miles in extent, with a population of 138,055. Its annual revenue is about two lakhs of rupees. It is under the control of the Political Agent of the Feudatory States of Orissa. The aboriginal tribes predominate, the most prominent of them being the Kols, the Gonds, the Khands and the Bhuiyas. Agriculture is the chief occupation of the people, and there is also a little weaving industry. Rice is the staple food, and paddy is grown in abundance. Pulses, oil-seeds, sugar-cane, cotton, lac, bees-wax, honey and silk are other products of importance. The forests abound in sal trees, from which resin is extracted. The river Brahmani flows through the country.

For administrative purposes the State is divided into two sub-divisions with five Magistrates, of whom three are invested with first class powers. The Chief exercises the powers of a Sessions Judge. He administers the Principality himself without the aid of a Dewan, but there is a State Council consisting of seven members, to advise the Rajah in serious and important judicial matters. The highest official of the Durbar is his Private Secretary, Babu Jageschandra Dasgupta. Medical aid is afforded in three Dispensaries, under the efficient control of the Principal Medical Officer, Dr. Surendranath Sinha. A workshop is attached to the Central Jail at Deogarh, where cotton, silk, and porcelain articles are manufactured. There are seven police stations and five out-posts in charge of a Police Superintendent. Instruction is given free, primary and secondary education being compulsory. The latter is imparted in the High School in English, and in the Prajna School in the vernaculars. Boarding houses are attached to them. Most of the primary schools are mixed ones, in which boys and girls are taught together. The khedda operations in the State forests are known all over Bengal. The four important towns in the Principality are Deogarh, the capital, Barkoot,

Kuchinda, and Govindapur. The palace of the Chief is in Deogarh, a picturesque town, surrounded by hills on all sides. Puranagarh (ancient fortress) is only a mile off from the palace. The Pradhanpat Falls, which supply the whole town and its suburbs with pure water, present a magnificent natural scenery. The eldest son of the Rajah is styled "Tikayet (one on whose forehead shines the Raj-tika or the sign of the raj); the second son, "Pattayet" (the sword-bearer and constant companion to his elder brother, the Tikayet); the other sons "Lalls" (Lall is a Rajput title, meaning a member of the royal family). When the Chief dies, the Tikayet becomes Sudhal or Tribhuban according to his turn; the Pattayet is known as Barakumar, and the Lalls retain their title as long as they live.

The Chiefs of Bamra claim descent from the lunar race of Rajputs. They are known as Ganga kings. It would appear that their ancestors were at one time rulers of Orissa; and when the members of that family were all treacherously murdered by a faithless minister, a nephew of the Rajah alone escaped into the Orissa jungles and founded the State of Bamra, by putting down most of the hill chiefs around and bringing the people under his sway. It continued as a separate Principality unmolested by any outside attacks until the middle of the eighteenth century, when the Mahrattas penetrated even these hill fastnesses and imposed a tribute of Rs. 400 on its ruler. The territory came under the East India Company in 1803, when the Mahratta power in Orissa declined.

The Chiefs of Bamra were let alone as hill feudatories, and they have always been most loyal to the suzerain power. Along with the other rulers of Orissa, they were bound to furnish contingents whenever needed by the Paramount Power for quelling disturbances. In recognition of the valuable aid rendered to the British Government by Rajah Braja Sundar Deb during the conflict between them and the Chief of Angul, they conferred on him the distinction of *Rajah Bahadur*, and presented him with two guns, an elephant, and a khilat. He improved the State in every possible way. It was in his reign that the Government of India recognized Bamra as a Feudatory State. Having no issue, he adopted Basudeb Deb, the son of his younger brother, Barakumar Harihar Deb. He died in 1869.

Rajah Basu Deb Sudhal Deb succeeded to the *gadi* as a minor of eighteen years, with his father, Harihar Deb, as guardian, until he attained his full age in 1874. He was a profound Sanskrit scholar and took a special interest in the education of his children. He raised the M. E. School in the State to the standard of a High School and got it affiliated to the Calcutta University in 1885. When his eldest son, the present Chief,

evinced a great taste for scientific knowledge, he fitted up a splendid laboratory and an observatory for him. At the Prince's suggestion, the Rajah introduced a scheme for supplying the capital with water by a system of pipes, from the Pradhanpat Falls. He set up a State Press, and started a weekly journal, entitled "Sambalpur Hitaisini." During his rule, free dispensaries, jails, police stations, post offices, telephones, steam engines for saw-mills, works of irrigation, etc., came into existence. The telephone line, which is seventy-eight miles in length, is supposed to be one of the longest in India. In recognition of his efficient management of the State, the Government of India bestowed on Rajah Basu Deb Sudhal Deb the well-merited title of C.I.E. in 1891, and four years later he was created a K.C.I.E. He passed away in 1903 at the age of fifty-two, leaving behind him nine sons.

Rajah Satchidananda Tribhuban Deb, the present Ruler, was born in 1873. He is well-versed in several branches of science, as physics, chemistry, mineralogy, meteorology and astronomy. He has brought out two treatises on science, headed *Brishtibijnan* and *Prakriti*. He has a reservoir constructed for the storage of pure water, and has extended its supply to the whole town by the pipe system. The palace and other important buildings, and the parks and gardens are lit by electricity. The Bamra Book Publishing Company is also worked by the same power. Cloth-looms, sugar-mills, etc., in the State-farm are supplied with water by the steam engine. He is a highly cultured Prince, and knows several languages—English, Sanskrit, Uriya, Bengali, and Hindi He recognises merit in others and encourages them liberally. He has translated many Sanskrit dramas and English scientific books into Uriya. The following are some of them:—*Maya-Sabari*, *Bhishma*, *Ananga*, *Chandra Doota*, *Baidic Prakriti*, *Ras-Rahasya*, *Alankar Sar*, *Chitra*, *Prema-Stanaka*, and *Kadamvari*. The Rajah Saheb is a strict teetotaler, and keeps an admirable check on his subjects against the use of any intoxicating beverage. He is very kind to his tenants and readily redresses their grievances. He is friendly with the neighbouring Chiefs, and popular among the British officers. He has three sons and a daughter. The heir-apparent, Tikayet Dibvasankar Deb, is studying in the Rajkumar School at Deogarh for the Matriculation Examination.

The scientific knowledge acquired by the Chief has been utilized to add to the comforts and conveniences of his subjects. Under such an enlightened Ruler the prosperity of the State is of course assured.

RAJAH SADHU CHARAN MAN SINGH HARICHANDAN RAJAH OF NARSINGHPUR

The feudatory State of Narsinghpur in Orissa, which fringes a series of forest-clad mountains, and which is bounded on the south and south-west by the river Mahanadi, has an area of 199 square miles and a population of more than 30,000. A road running from Sankarpur in Dhenkanal connects Baramba with Narsinghpur. There are two other roads that lead to Angul and Hindol. Kanpur, on the Mahanadi, is the chief village, with a population of nearly 2,000. A bi-weekly fair is held there, and deals in large quantities of grain, cotton and sugar-cane. Instruction is given in one vernacular middle school, one upper primary school, and about forty primary schools. Medical aid is afforded in one dispensary. The revenue comes to nearly 75,000 rupees, of which the sum of Rs. 1,450 is paid as tribute to the British Government. A Rajput, named Dharma Singh, founded the State six hundred years ago. It would appear that he conquered it from two Khond Chiefs, Narsingh and Poro; hence probably the name Narsinghpur. The rulers of this Principality have been enjoying the titles, Man Singh Hari Chandan Mahapatra, with the distinction of Rajah for a long time, and they were formally recognized by the British Government in 1874. The present Chief, Rajah Sadhu Charan Man Singh Hari Chandan, born in 1883, was placed on the *gadi* as a child barely a year old. During his minority the State was under the management of the Court of Wards. The Rajah is well educated and carries on the administration efficiently.

RAJAH JOGINDRA DEO
RAJAH OF BAUD

Baud, an ancient principality in the Tributary Mahals of Orissa, covers an area of 1,264 square miles, and has a population of 113,000. Its revenue is nearly a lakh of rupees, of which the sum of Rs. 800 is paid as tribute to the British Government. The State was founded more than 1,800 years ago by Anang Bhunj Deo, a relation of the Bhunj Rajah of Keunjhar, another Native State in Orissa. The rulers of the latter country, in their turn, claim their descent from the great ruling house of Chitor. It is said that, during the turbulent times when the Chiefs of Rajputana were engaged in internal warfare, some brothers of Anang Bhunj Deo fled from the seat of war and went to Puri on a pilgrimage. They at last settled in Orissa and established the States of Mayurbhunj, Keunjhar and Kanika. As refugees from the field of battle, they were styled "Bhunj", which literally means "run away." Formerly, the Province of Baud was ruled by a Brahmin line of kings, the last of whom was Gandha Mardan Deo. When Anang Bhunj Deo, as a mere youth, came over from Keunjhar with his widowed mother, Gandha Mardan Deo took them under his care. As he had no issue at the time of his death, he left the State to Anang Bhunj, who ascended the *gadi* on the demise of the Brahmin ruler. Seventy generations have passed since his assumption of the chiefship.

The hereditary title of Rajah has been enjoyed by successive Chiefs from the time of the Mahomedan supremacy. The Mahrattas too recognised it, and it was finally ratified by the English in 1874. The rulers of Baud have acquired historic renown for their loyalty and hospitality. It is said that, during the time of Rajah Pratap Deo, a party of imperial troops passed through his capital on its way to Puri. The officers in command were compelled to halt at Baud as fever had broken out in the army. The Rajah rendered them every assistance, and gained their good opinion. On their return to the headquarters, they spoke highly

of the generosity and kindness of the Chief, and the Emperor conferred on him the title of *Swasti Shri Deolakhya Dumbadhipati Jharkhund Mandleshwar*. The Rajahs continued to hold this distinction till the time of Banamali Deo. In his reign some Mahratta officers repaired to Sonepur for the collection of the peshkush and maltreated and harassed the innocent ryots. The enraged populace got together and determined to oppose the oppressors. The Mahrattas, on hearing this, fled to Baud, and sought refuge with the Chief, but the Sonepuris followed them thither. He rescued the Mahrattas by taking their pursuers prisoners, and sending them to Nagpur. This act gained for him the esteem of the Mahratta sovereign, who granted him the title of *Swasti Shri Prabala Pratapaditya Paratapa Danasampanna Jharkhand Badshah*. Further, he was exempted from the payment of all dues (peshkush) either to the Mahrattas or to the Moghuls. The distinction enjoyed by the Chiefs was subsequently abbreviated to *Jharkhand Paichha*. The eldest son of the Chief is called Jub Rajah, while the younger sons are known as Babus.

The greater part of the State consists of jungles and hills, where elephants, tigers and other kinds of game are to be found. It was Rajah Pitamber Deo, the father of the present Chief, who made it his life-long aim to reclaim the forest lands and establish new villages. Most of the villages and irrigation bunds, tanks and reservoirs scattered throughout the Principality, testify to his zeal for its development. Since his accession to the *gadi*, Rajah Jogindra Deo has made improvements in every direction. The State has had a regular settlement. The Forest, Police and Education Departments have been specially reorganised. Education has been made *free*, and the number of schools is increasing year by year. Vaccination has become very popular. The administration has been placed on a sound basis to meet the wants of modern times. The revenue has been considerably increased. The headquarters are studded with substantial public buildings, and the newly-built palace of the Chief stands prominently on the bank of the Mahanadi river.

The present Rajah, Jogindra Deo, is fifty-four years old and has sat on the *gadi* since the 5th October 1880. He has travelled all over India with the Rani and the Jubraj. He was invited to the levee of Their Imperial Majesties the King-Emperor and the Queen-Empress, held at Calcutta in January 1912, and he welcomed the opportunity thus afforded him of paying his respects to them. He is highly spoken of all over the district for his exemplary behaviour and careful management of the State. The Rajah has an only son, Jubraj Narayan Prasad Deo, a lad of seven years, and has placed him under capable teachers.

RAJAH SHYAM CHANDRA MARDARAJ HARI CHANDAN
RAJAH OF NILGIRI

Lying between the State of Mayurbhanj and the District of Balasore, Nilgiri, the tributary hill State of Orissa, has an area of 278 square miles, and a population of about 60,000, scattered over 466 villages, with a density of 239 persons per square mile. Hills, which contain valuable timber, cover a third of the State. Nine-tenths of the people are Hindus, the rest being Mahomedans and Animists Among the principal castes are the Khandaits, Bhumij, Brahmins, Gaurs, and Hos. There are Christians of the American Free Baptist Mission, living at Mitrapur, eleven miles west of the Balasore town. The revenue of the State comes to a lakh and a half, and the tribute payable to the British Government is Rs. 3,900. For purposes of instruction, there are ten upper primary, and about a hundred lower primary schools, and one English middle school. There is one dispensary. Nilgiri, the most important village of the State, is at the foot of a hill within reach of the trunk road from Calcutta to Madras. Black stone is quarried to a large extent, and it is used for making cups, bowls, platters, etc. Nothing is known of the early history of the State. It is traditionally believed that the Principality was founded by an adventurer of Chota Nagpur; that one of his successors rendered timely and valuable aid to Man Singh, a General of Akbar, in reducing the turbulent and refractory Pathans to subjection; and that the Emperor recognised it by granting the Chief substantial rewards. Rajah Krishna Chandra Mardaraj Hari Chandan, born in 1827, succeeded to the *gadi* in 1832. After him came his adopted son, the present Chief, Rajah Shyam Chandra Mardaraj Hari Chandan, in 1894. He is the twenty-sixth in descent from the founder of the family. He is a brother of the late Maharajah of Moharbhanj. He received his education at St. Paul's School, Darjeeling, under the guardianship of a European gentleman. The titles of *Rajah* and *Mardaraj Harichandan* were recognized by the British Government in 1874.

RAJAH BABHUDENDRA DEO SAMANTA
RAJAH OF ATHMALLIK

Athmallik, a tributary State of Orissa, Bengal, covers an area of 730 square miles, and has a population of a little more than 40,000, with a density of 56 persons per square mile. The principality comprises 460 villages; the most important of them, Kaintira, on the north bank of the Mahanadi, with a population of nearly 2,000, contains the palace of the Chief. Of the castes, the most largely represented are Chasas, Gaurs, Gonds, Pans and Sudhas. The country is hilly and well-wooded, and the river Mahanadi flows through it. The chief products are timber, rice, and oil-seeds, and they are exported by means of pack bullocks and boats. Instruction is imparted in one English middle school, one upper primary school, and about forty lower primary schools. Medical aid is afforded in one dispensary. The revenue is nearly a lakh of rupees, of which the sum of Rs. 480 is paid as tribute to the British Government. It is traditionally believed that one Pratap Deo, the ancestor of the Athmallik family, with his seven brothers, went from Jaipur, in Rajputana, to Puri on a pilgrimage, when a quarrel arose between them and the Rajah of Puri, and two of them were killed. The others proceeded to Bonai, and took possession of the place, one of them becoming its ruler. What now constitutes the Athmallik State on the north of the river Mahanadi, was then under the sway of a Rajah, a Dom by caste. Pratap Deo went against him, captured his dominions, and established himself ruler over them. He founded a village which he called after himself, Pratappur, and which is still in existence. The State proper was known as Handpa. With a view to bring the turbulent aborigines under control, one of his successors divided the principality into eight parts, and placed a Chief over each of them. The country was thereafter known as Athmallik (eight chiefs). Maharajah Mahendra Deo Samanta, born in 1848, came to the *gadi* on the 4th February 1877. Rajah Babhudendra Deo Samanta is the present Chief.

RAJAH NABA KISHOR CHANDRA MARDARAJ JAGDEB RAJAH OF HINDOL

The tributary State of Hindol in Orissa, Bengal, covers an area of 312 square miles and has a population of nearly 50,000, scattered over 234 villages. Almost all the people are Hindus. The most important castes are the Chasas and Pans. The revenue comes to nearly a lakh of rupees, and the tribute payable to the British Government is Rs. 551. The old Cuttack-Sambalpur high road, which runs through the State in a south-easterly direction, is the only means of communication. The soil is well adapted to the growth of oranges as the excellent fruits from the Rajah's gardens testify. The local products are brought to the Mahanadi river, where travelling merchants purchase them. Education is given in one English middle school, three upper primary, and sixty lower primary schools. Medical aid is afforded free in one dispensary. The founders of the State are said to be Lakshman Mahratta and Bharat Mahratta, of the family of the Kimedi Rajahs in Ganjam, Madras Presidency. It was originally under the sway of three or four petty Chiefs, completely buried in jungle, till the two Mahratta brothers drove out the old rulers and formed their territories into one principality. Three generations ago, Rajah Ishwar Singh Mardaraj Jagdeb was the ruler of Hindol. He was succeeded by his son, Rajah Fakir Singh Mardaraj Jagdeb As he had no issue, his brother, Rajah Janardan Mardaraj Jagdeb, born in 1855, came to the *gadi* in July 1877. Rajah Naba Kishor Chandra Mardaraj Jagdeb is the present Chief. The title of Rajah was conferred on the family by the Mahratta rulers, and was recognised by the British Government in 1874.

RAJAH BANAMALI KHETRIYA BIRBAR CHAMPATI SINGH MAHAPATRA RAJAH OF TIGIRIA

The tiny tributary State of Tigiria, in Orissa, Bengal, covers an area of forty-six square miles, and is surrounded by the States of Dhenkanal, Athgarh, and Baramba. It has a population of a little more than 20,000, spread over 102 villages. Though this is the smallest of the Orissa States, it is the most densely peopled, with 492 persons per square mile. Almost all the people are Hindus, the most numerous class being the Chasas, who number nearly 10,000. The Mahanadi waters the tracts. The soil is fertile, and among the principal products are rice and other food grains, oil-seeds, sugar-cane, tobacco, and cotton. Superior cotton cloth is woven in the State and largely exported. Fairs are held in two villages twice a week. For communication there are proper roads. The revenue is about 20,000 rupees, of which the sum of Rs. 882 is paid as tribute to the British Government. Education is provided for in nearly thirty institutions of the lower primary standard. Tigiria is said to be a corruption of *Trigiri* or *three hills*. The Chiefs of this State come of a Rajput Kshatriya family, which is said to have descended from one Sur Tung Singh Mandhata, a pilgrim to Puri from Rajputana. Conquering the tracts from the aborigines, about four centuries ago, he set himself up as ruler over them. Another account is to the effect that the State was founded nearly four hundred years ago by one Nityananda Tunga, a pilgrim from the west to Puri, who was directed to the spot by a dream. Rajah Gopinath Singh, the twenty-second in descent from him, assumed the title of Champati Singh Mahapatra. His great-grandson, Rajah Harihar Khetriya, got the additional title of Birbar. After ruling for forty-two years, he died in 1886, when he was succeeded by his son, the present Chief, Rajah Banamali Khetriya Birbar Champati Singh Mahapatra, born in 1857.

RAJAH NARAYAN SINGH MANDHATA
RAJAH OF NAYAGARH

The hilly and picturesque tributary State of Nayagarh in Orissa, Bengal, has an area of 588 square miles and a population of 140,000, scattered over 775 villages, with a density of 240 persons to a square mile. The majority of the people are Hindus, the rest being Animists and Mahomedans. The most important castes are the Chasas, Pans, Gaurs, Brahmins and Khonds. A range of hills, from 2,000 to 3,000 feet in height, runs through the State. The south and south-eastern portions are very wild and hilly, occupied by troublesome Khonds, who occasionally carry their depredations into the surrounding tracts. Among the exports are rice, cotton, sugar-cane, and several kinds of oil-seeds and cereals. For purposes of education there are one English middle school, three upper primary, and fifty lower primary schools. Medical aid is afforded in one dispensary. The Chiefs of Nayagarh claim their descent from Surjya Mani Singh of the Rajput family connected with the rulers of Rewa. The State has an annual revenue of nearly a lakh and a half, of which the sum of Rs. 5,525 is paid as tribute to the British Government. Nayagarh, the principal village, contains the residence of the Chief, and is connected by road with Khurda in the Puri District. Originally Khandpara and Nayagarh formed one State, but about two centuries ago, Khandpara became a separate principality. The Rajahs of Nayagarh won the distinctions of *Champati Singh*, *Mangraj*, and *Mandhata* from the rulers of Puri. Rajah Ladhu Kishor Singh Mandhata, born in 1843, succeeded to the State in 1851. He was followed by Rajah Raghunath Singh Mandhata in 1890. Four years after, the Khonds rose against him, but order was soon restored with the aid of the British. The present Chief is Rajah Narayan Singh Mandhata.

RAJAH RAM CHANDRA SINGH MARDRAJ BHRAMARBAR RAI RAJAH OF KHANDAPARA

The tributary State of Khandapara in Orissa, Bengal, is separated by the Mahanadi from the principalities of Narsinghpur and Baramba, and lies between Nayagarh on the south and Daspalla on the west. It has an area of 244 square miles with a population of about 70,000. The revenue is nearly half a lakh, and the tribute payable to the British Government is Rs. 4,212. The soil is very fertile, and the country is one of the best cultivated in the district. Excellent kinds of timber are grown in the hilly parts, and splendid banyan and mango trees on the plains. The State maintains a vernacular middle school and nearly forty lower primary schools. Medical aid is given free in one dispensary. The family of the Rajah of Khandapara is an off-shoot of that of Nayagarh, claiming descent from a younger son of the latter house, Jadunath Singh Mangraj, who had lived seventy-two generations ago. Himself and three of his successors added largely to their dominions by conquering the neighbouring petty aboriginal chieftains. The Rajahs reformed their subjects, who were savage and uncivilized, by affording them facilities for education. In recognition of the help rendered by one of the Chiefs of Khandapara, Banamali Singh, to the Maharajah of Orissa, the latter conferred on him the distinctions of *Bhai Mardraj Bhramarbar Rai*, which still continue in the family. The flag granted to one of his successors by the Maharajah of Nagpur is preserved. When Orissa first came under British influence, Rajah Narsingha Singh rendered valuable assistance to them; and they recognised it by presenting him with an elephant and a cannon. Rajah Natobar Singh Mardraj Bhramarbar Rai, born in 1837, came to the *gadi* in 1867. Rajah Ram Chandra Singh Mardraj Bhramarbar Rai is the present Chief. The title of Rajah was conferred on the family by the Mahratta rulers, and it was formally recognised by the British Government in 1874.

RAJAH GANESHWAR PAL, RAJAH OF PAL LAHARA.

The tributary State of Pal Lahara in Orissa, Bengal, has an area of 452 square miles, and a population of about 25,000, spread over 265 villages, giving a density of fifty persons per square mile. Hills cover the eastern and the northern portions of the principality. Malayagiri, the loftiest of the peaks in the Orissa District, is situated within its limits. The ordinary grains and oil-seeds are the principal agricultural products. The road from Midnapore to Sambalpur passes through the country. A recently constructed good road connects Talcher and Angul with the village in which the Rajah resides. Instruction is given in nearly a dozen primary schools. Medical aid is afforded in one dispensary. The annual revenue of the State is more than Rs. 30,000, of which the sum of Rs. 267 is paid as tribute to the British Government. The Rajput Chiefs of Pal Lahara trace their descent from Rajah Santosh Pal, commonly known as Pat Ganeshwar Pal. The State was for a long time tributary to Keunjhar, which led to a good deal of complications and internal disputes, until the British intervened and took it under their protection. The present Rajah is the twenty-third in descent from the founder of the family. Chintamani Pal, also called Pat Muni Pal, was the Chief in 1860. He was most useful to the British in suppressing the rebellion that broke out in Keunjhar in 1867-8, and in recognition of it, the personal distinction of Rajah Bahadur was conferred on him. On his death in 1888, he was succeeded by the present Chief, Rajah Ganeshwar Pal, born in 1884.

RAJAH NARAYANA DEO BHANJ
RAJAH OF DASPALLA.

The tributary State of Daspalla, in Orissa, Bengal, fringes the Angul District and the Narasinghpur Principality, and is bounded on the south by the Ganjam District in the Madras Presidency, and on the west by Baud. Its area is 568 square miles, and it has a population of about 60,000. Almost all the people are Hindus, the most important castes being represented by the Khonds, Pans, Chasas and Gaurs. The Mahanadi river, which runs through a portion of the State, forms a very fine waterway. Goaldes, 2,506 feet above the sea-level, is the chief peak. The revenue of the State is nearly a lakh of rupees, and the tribute payable to the British Government is Rs. 661. The capital, Kunjaban, is at a distance of fourteen miles from the Cuttack-Sonepur road. Education is imparted in one English middle school, two upper primary and forty lower primary schools. Medical aid is rendered in one free dispensary. The Rajahs of Daspalla are Kshatriyas of the solar race, and claim their descent from a younger son of the Chief of Baud, Rajah Narayan Bhanj. The rulers of Nayagarh and Khandapara made some land grants to him, which he enlarged by annexing and by conquering the neighbouring tracts. What lies south of the Mahanadi constitutes the original principality, and Joremuha, situated on the north of the river, was obtained from the Rajah of Angul; hence the Chief of Daspalla is called Rajah of Joremuha-Daspalla. During the Mahratta supremacy, he consented to supply annually the required quantity of timber for the Jagannath cars at Puri, and in consequence they remitted the tribute for Joremuha. The title of Rajah conferred by them on the head of the family was recognized by the British Government in 1874. Rajah Chaitan Deo Bhanj, born in 1854, succeeded to the State in 1873. The present Chief is Rajah Narayan Deo Bhanj.

RAJAH SRI KARAN BISWANATH BAWARTA PATNAIK
RAJAH OF ATHGARH

The fertile little State of Athgarh, one of the tributary Principalities of Orissa, in Bengal, lies between Tigiria and Dhenkanal, and covers an area of 168 square miles. It has a population of 50,000; the majority of the people are Hindus, represented by the Chasas, Sahars, Khandaits and Pans. Its annual revenue is more than half a lakh, of which the sum of Rs. 2,800 is paid as tribute to the British Government. The tracts are level and low-lying, and inundations occur frequently. Among the crops are rice, sugar-cane, pulses and millets. The most important of the villages is Athgarh, which contains the residence of the Rajah. A small body of Christians have colonized three hamlets near the Chagan village. The river Mahanadi passes through the State. The means of communication to Athgarh are by the old High road from Cuttack to Sambalpur and by the newly opened Cuttack-Angul-Sambalpur road. Grain, fuel, and charcoal are the chief exports. For purposes of instruction there are one English middle school, one upper primary school, nearly a hundred lower primary schools, and one Sanskrit *tol*. The progenitor of the ruling family of Athgarh was Sri Karn Niladri Bawarta Patnaik, a Karn by caste, who had worked as the minister to the Rajah of Puri, and acquired from him the Athgarh territory, with the title of Rajah, in appreciation of services rendered. Another account is to the effect that he got it as a dowry on marrying the Rajah's sister. Twenty-seventh in descent from him, Rajah Sri Karan Bhagirathi Bawarta Patnaik, born in 1844, became the ruler in 1869. The present Chief is Rajah Sri Karan Biswanath Bawarta Patnaik.

RAJAH RAGHUNATH SIKHAR DEO BAHADUR
RAJAH OF GANGPUR

Gangpur is a tributary State of Orissa in Bengal and covers an area of 2,492 square miles. It has a population of about 250,000, half of whom being Hindus, and the rest Animists, Mahomedans and Christians. The Ib, the Sankh, and the South Koel are the chief rivers, which irrigate a large part of the tracts. The State forests abound in game, and also contain roots and indigenous drugs. The country is full of mineral resources; lime-stone and iron are obtainable in large quantities. Among the principal crops are rice, sugar-cane, and oil-seeds. The most important of the jungle products are lac, resin, and catechu. The villages are either leased out to farmers or held on feudal tenures. The revenue is nearly three lakhs, of which the sum of Rs. 1,250 is paid as tribute to the British Government. The police force comprises nearly two hundred officers and men, and is under the control of the eldest son of the Chief For education there are one English middle school, and eight upper primary and ten lower primary schools. Medical aid is rendered in one dispensary. Suadi, the capital of the State, on the Ib river, has a population of nearly 3,000. It contains the palace of the Chief, and the usual public offices, such as a court-house, a school, and a dispensary. The Rajahs of Gangpur are Kshatriyas of the Sikhar family of Sikharpur or Pachete in Manbhum. When the power of the Mahrattas was at its height, this State was feudatory to Sambalpur. It came under British protection in 1821. It was transferred from Chota Nagpur to Orissa in 1905. The present Chief, Rajah Raghunath Sikhar Deo, born in 1849, succeeded to the State as a minor in 1858. Till he came of age, it was under British management. The Rajah has been invested with powers to pass sentences of imprisonment up to five years and levy a fine of rupees two hundred; but sentences of imprisonment for more than two years and fines exceeding fifty rupees require the confirmation of the Commissioner of Orissa. He won the distinction of *Rajah Bahadur* at the last Delhi Durbar.

RAJAH GOPINATH NARAYAN BHANJ DEO
RAJAH OF KEONJHAR

Keonjhar is one of the tributary States of Orissa covering an area of 3,096 square miles with a population of about 300,000. A little over three-fourths of the people are Hindus, and the rest Animists. The important castes consist of Pans, Khandaits, Gaurs, Hos, Bhuiyas, Kurmis, Gonds, Bathudis and Khonds. For administrative purposes the State is divided into three sub-divisions, the headquarters, Anandpur or Lower Keonjhar, and Champeswar or Nuagarh. Education is imparted in two English middle schools, ten upper primary, and ninety lower primary schools. Medical aid is afforded in three free dispensaries. Keonjhar town (or Nijgarh), the capital of the State, is on the Midnapore-Sambalpur Road. It has a population of 5,000. Anandpur is the principal village in the country, and it is connected by a fine road with Keonjhar town and also with Bhadrak station on the Bengal-Nagpur railway. It is a trade centre, where the local products are bartered for salt brought by boats from the coast. The revenue of the principality is nearly four lakhs, and the tribute payable to the British Government is Rs. 1,710. Keonjhar is an off-shoot of Moharbhanj. It would appear that Jai Singh, a son of the Maharajah of Jaipur in Rajputana, went on a pilgrimage to Puri, and married the daughter of the King of that country, and obtained from him as a dowry the State of Hariharpur, which comprised the principalities of Keonjhar and Moharbhanj. Jaisingh's younger son, Joti Singh, founded the Keonjhar State. Maharajah Dhanurjai Narayan Bhanj Deo, born in 1849, succeeded to the *gadi* as a minor in 1861. He won the personal distinction of *Maharajah* in 1877. The title of *Rajah* was conferred on the family by the Mahratta rulers, and it was formally recognized by the British Government in 1874. Rajah Gopinath Narayan Bhanj Deo is the present Chief.

RAJAH BHIRCHANDRA JADUMUNI DEO JANAMUNI RAJAH OF RAIRAKHOL

Rairakhol is a feudatory State in Orissa, Bengal, and covers an area of 833 square miles. It has a population of nearly 30,000, made up of Chasas, Gonds, Gandas, and Sudhs. Ninety per cent of the people speak Oriya, and the rest, the Oraon and the Mundari dialects. A little more than a tenth of the area is brought under cultivation, and about half the country is hilly and well-wooded. Among the animals found in the forest are the elephant, the buffalo, the bison, and a peculiar kind of light-coloured wild hog. Tanks constitute the chief source of irrigation. The soil is light and sandy. The revenue is nearly 70,000 rupees, of which the sum of Rs. 800 is paid as tribute to the British Government. Education is imparted in half a dozen primary schools, and medical aid is rendered in one dispensary. The principal village is Rampur, with a population of about 2,000, and situated at a distance of forty-four miles from Sambalpur by road. The Chiefs of Rairakhol, who come of a branch of the Bonai Raj family, are Kadambansi Rajputs. They were subordinate to Bamra till the end of the seventeenth century, when the Rajahs of Patna helped them in freeing themselves from the authority of the rulers of that country. It is traditionally believed that Bamra and Rairakhol were on hostile terms for a long time; that on a certain occasion the whole of the Rairakhol family were annihilated; thatle only a sing boy survived the massacre; that he was hidden by a Butka Sudh woman; and that on his coming of age he recovered his territory. Rajah Bishan Chandra Janamuni, born in 1818, succeeded to the *gadi*, as a minor, in 1825. He was the fourteenth in descent from the founder of the State. After a long and successful rule of seventy-five years, he passed away in 1900. His successor was his grandson, Rajah Gauro Chandra Deo. The present Chief is Rajah Bhir Chandra Jadumuni Deo Janamuni.

THAKORE SHRIRAM CHANDRA SINGH DEO
THAKORE OF KHARSAWAN

The little feudatory State of Kharsawan, in Chota Nagpur, Bengal, covers an area of 153 square miles, and has a population of about 40,000, scattered over 263 villages, giving a density of 240 persons to a square mile. Most of the people are Hindus, and the rest Animists. Among the chief crops are rice, maize, pulses, mustard, sugarcane, and tobacco. Coarse cotton cloths, iron cooking utensils, and leaf mats, constitute the manufactures. Since the opening of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, which passes through twelve miles within the boundary of the State, trade has developed. Rice, pulses, oilseeds, stick-lac, *tasar* cocoons, and iron are the exports; and the imports are salt, cotton thread, cotton piece-goods, tobacco, and brass kitchen utensils. The principality is full of mineral resources, and it bids fair to become before long a large mining centre. Instruction is imparted in one English middle school, and four lower primary schools. The State maintains only one dispensary. In judicial and executive matters, the Chief exercises full administrative powers; but in criminal cases, sentences of imprisonment above two years and up to five years, require the confirmation of the Commissioner. More heinous crimes are tried by the Deputy Commissioner of Singhbhum The family to which the rulers of Kharsawan belong is an off-shoot of that of the Rajahs of Porahat. Kunwar Bikram Singh, a junior member of the latter house, obtained from the Chief some tracts for his maintenance, which now comprise the principalitiy of Kharsawan. There were disturbances in the frontier in 1793, when the Chiefs of Kharsawan entered into an agreement with the British Government. Thakore Raghunath Singh Deo ruled over the State till 1884, when he was succeeded by his son, Thakore Mahendra Narayan Singh Deo. The present minor Chief is Thakore Shriram Chandra Singh Deo. The State is now under British management, and proper arrangements have been made for the education of the young Thakore Saheb.

RAOLJI SHRI TAKHAT SINHJI
CHIEF OF MANSA

Mansa is a Native State in the Mahikantha Agency of the Bombay Presidency. It is bounded on all sides by the Baroda territory. It covers an area of twenty-seven square miles, and has a population of 15,000. The annual revenue is 75,000 rupees. The capital is Mansa, which is the largest town in the Agency. It has a large and wealthy community of merchants. There are four vernacular schools in addition to a girls' school and an Anglo-Vernacular school. Education is imparted free.

The Chief belongs to the Chavda clan of Rajputs, being descended from Vanraj Chavda, who, as the illustrious son of Jaysekhar, was the first sovereign of Gujrat. In A. D. 746 he founded Anhilpurapatan, the original capital of Gujrat. Mulraj, a Solanki king, who was the nephew of Samant Sinhji, the last ruler of the Chavda dynasty, killed the latter and his heirs and ascended the throne in A. D. 942. From this general slaughter, an infant son of the Chavda house, Ahipat by name, one year old, was saved by his mother, and conveyed to her paternal home at Jaisalmir. There he grew up, and, when he came of age, he opposed Mulraj Solanki, and, seizing 900 villages in Cutch, made Morgarh, his capital. No less than fifteen of his descendants ruled there. Punjaji, the fifteenth in descent from Ahipat, being deprived of Morgarh, removed his seat of government to Dharpur (a village now under the Palanpur State) and established a new principality with eighty-four villages. Alauddin Khilji, Emperor of Delhi, conquered Dharpur and then took Gujrat from Karna, the last Vagila king of Gujrat. Soon after this, Alauddin was in Patan, when there was a great disturbance caused by the Vihal Rajputs of Vihalwad, and he had to seek the assistance of Punjaji, who overcame them and captured all their principal possessions, comprising 252 villages. These were subsequently conferred on him by Alauddin himself. Punjaji then made Ambasna his capital.

Jaysinhji, the fifth in descent, had three sons, namely, Samantsinhji,

Suraj Mulji, and Ihardasji. They divided the principality among themselves, each obtaining a share of eighty-four villages. Ihardasji located his capital at Ambod, and Suraj Mulji, at Vorsoda, while Samantsinhji kept Ambasna for himself. After Samantsinhji, came in succession Lunkarnji, Mansinhji, Jasuji, and Sursinhji. The last of them removed his capital from Ambasna to Mansa. Sursinhji was succeeded by nine princes who ruled over the State one after another, and the ninth of them was Sabalsinhji. During his time, the British extended their power to this part of the country, and in 1812 he entered into an agreement with them along with the other Chiefs of Gujrat.

Raolji Shri Rajsinhji, the grandson of Sabalsinhji, and the uncle of the present ruler, was one of the most enlightened Chiefs in the Agency. He died in 1886, and was succeeded by his brother, Kashrisinhji, who was an intelligent prince. The latter passed away in 1889, when the State was taken under the management of the British owing to the minority of his son, the present Chief, Raolji Shri Takhat Sinhji.

He was born on the 12th August 1877. He joined the Rajkumar College at Rajkot in 1886, and studied up to the Matriculation class. He entered on the administration of the State in 1894, and worked with the Manager for three years. He was invested with full powers on the 12th November 1897, and he set his heart on the improvement and consolidation of the principality. Within three years, the country was overtaken by the great famine of 1900, when he took steps to protect the people by starting relief works, which he was able to maintain without incurring any debt, with the help of the present Minister, Mr. Mohanlal Kikabhai, a native of Ahmedabad. The excellent administration of Mansa was appreciated by the Supreme Government, and special powers were conferred upon the Chief, on the occasion of the Delhi Durbar of 1903. The Political Agent held a durbar at Sadra, the civil station of the Mahikantha Agency, to celebrate the event. Almost all the Chiefs of the Agency were present. The Raolji was then the recipient of the following *Kharita* of the Bombay Government, specifying his powers :—

Political Department,
Bombay Castle, 18th December 1902.

To

THE RAOLJI SHREE TAKHAT SINHJI
OF MANSA

MY FRIEND,

It has given me great pleasure to receive through the Commissioner of the Northern Division from the Political Agent, Mahikantha, very gratifying

reports of your application to the duties of your position and of the enlightened and capable administration of your State.

It seems to me that the best way of showing the appreciation of the Government on these reports is to withdraw to a suitable extent the exercise of the British Residuary Jurisdiction in your territory. I have, therefore, the pleasure to inform you that, with effect from the date of the delivery to you of this *Kharita*, the Agency Court will not entertain criminal cases other than those punishable with more than seven years' rigorous imprisonment and Rs. 10,000 fine, nor will they entertain civil cases unless the amount exceeds Rs. 20,000; cases within these limits will be left as a personal recognition to your disposal during the pleasure of Government.

With every wish for your happiness,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) NORTHCOTE.

The Raolji addressed the Political Agent on behalf of himself and his brother Chiefs, and the extracts from his speech, which we give below, show the policy of his administration and his loyalty to the British Government :—

The Political Officers have been always our best friends and advisers and have been giving us very sound and valuable advice with regard to our administration. Sir, from my own experience I say that they are very kind to us, and I shall not omit to mention that Colonel Ferris, once the representative of Government for our Agency, was very kind to me. Very often he gave me sound advice and valuable instructions with regard to administration. I perfectly remember the most valuable advice he gave me at Mansa in the course of his speech on the occasion of my installation, and I quote some of his very words :—

"You have inherited a very responsible trust. Do not fear it; if your conscience is clear, your motive always upright and honest, the cares of Government will not sit too heavily on you. You will of course have your trials and troubles, they are inseparable from your position, and you will doubtless find yourself misunderstood and misrepresented. Don't let this dishearten you, but act always as your conscience directs you, having ever for your ambition the good of your people and just administration under God. Remember that you are a Rajput and a gentleman, and endeavour to act up to this noble inheritance."

You see that Colonel Ferris in this, his advice, asks me to be a Rajput and a Gentleman. Sir, the word *Rajput* is not meant to represent one given to vices and negligence of duty. It means one who loves truth and justice and who is ever alive to his duty. I cannot define *duty* better than our worthy Colonel Ferris, and, I say, to seek the good of the

people and a just administration under God is duty. I have tried most earnestly to follow this advice, and though at the beginning I had difficulties, as he said very truly I should have, I have been able to tide over them.

Sir, these difficulties are chiefly caused by want of proper persons to instruct us and to rightly represent and carry into effect our intentions. This want in my case was adequately supplied by my having secured the services of Mr. Mohanlal Kikabhai, who has been of very great help to me in getting the business of my State done to my satisfaction, and through whose hearty co-operation, I have been able to act according to the advice of Colonel Ferris, namely, "Act always as your conscience directs you."

The Chief enjoys for the present powers of criminal jurisdiction up to seven years' imprisonment and Rs. 10,000 fine, and of civil jurisdiction in suits of the value of Rs. 20,000.

He was one of the Princes that were introduced to His Imperial Majesty when he landed in Bombay as Prince of Wales in 1905.

He has erected several public buildings, such as the O'Donell Market, Hydeales' School, West Library buildings, etc. There are two tanks in Mansa, the construction of one of which, begun during the time of the Raolji's father and left half-done, has been completed by him. The other has been much improved so as to be of use to the public. He encourages cultivators in irrigation and other works, and in his time numerous wells have been sunk. He takes a keen interest in the plantation of trees, especially mango trees, for which the land is most suitable. He is a supporter of education, which he has made free in the State since the birth of an heir to him. He is a follower of Sankara. He is of a tolerant disposition and hates hypocrisy in religion. He is by nature simple and accessible to all. His subjects express their grievances in person and have them redressed. He takes a personal interest in the administration of the principality. Of his two Ranees, one of them died, some years ago, leaving a daughter, who was married in 1912 to Shrimant Indar Sinhji, the present Rajah Saheb of Bansda. The second Rani, the daughter of the heir-apparent of the Sayla State, in Kathiawar, has two sons, the elder of whom, Kumar Shri Sajjan Sinhji, is the heir-apparent. He is now five years old. The younger is Kumar Shri Jasvant Sinhji.

This little State enjoys all the benefits of an efficient administration under the present able and enlightened Chief.

SHRIMANT BHAWAN RAO PANDIT PANT PRATINIDHI, B.A., CHIEF OF AUNDH

The Aundh State under the political superintendence of the Collector of Satara in the Bombay Presidency, lies within the Deccan trap, and covers an area of 501 square miles. It has a population of 68,918, spread over seventy-two villages, and its annual revenue is Rs. 2,75, 942. The only river of importance is the Man, which flows north and south in the Atpadi taluk of Aundh. Agriculture is the main source of living for more than half the population. Among the principal crops are the Indian millet, jowar, wheat, cotton, sugarcane, and gram. The important natural sources of revenue are timber, extensive grazing lands, and salt. The country suffered heavily from the famines of 1876-77, 1896-97, and 1899-1900, when large portions of land were left uncultivated. The Chief exercises full civil and criminal powers, but cases requiring capital punishment or transportation for life, are tried by the Political Agent, the preliminary enquiries being conducted by the Pant Pratinidhi himself. The territory was thoroughly surveyed in 1869, and a revision settlement was introduced in 1894-95. There is a small regular police of about 100 officers and men and an equal number of irregular police who serve as guard and escort. There are nearly thirty educational institutions, and two dispensaries, one of the latter being a memorial to His late Majesty King Edward VII. Atpadi, an important village in the State, with a population of more than 5,000, is well-known for its cattle. Twelve miles beyond it is the temple of Nath, which is visited by many pilgrims, where a cattle fair is held twice a year. At Atpadi, country blankets and coarse cloth are manufactured and exported to the Konkan. A post-office, a dispensary, and an English school are located in it. The State pays no tribute. The family holds the usual sanad of adoption, and in matters of succession, it follows the law of primogeniture.

The Chiefs of Aundh bear the distinction of Pratinidhi (representative of the King); and Parshuram Trimbuck of Kinhi was the first of them on

whom the title was conferred by Rani Tarabai, the wife of Maharajah Rajaram of Satara, the younger son of Shivaji. He entered the service of the Satara durbar, and by sheer dint of energy, prowess and sterling honesty, gradually paved his way up to the highest post of Pant Pratinidhi, an office created during the reign of Rajaram. All the ministers of the Mahratta court, including the Peshwas, worked under the Pratinidhi. The first man who was installed in that exalted position under Rajaram was Pralhad Niraji. He was succeeded by two others who proved to be of mediocre ability. In the time of Rani Tara Bai internal dissensions and foreign hostilities reared their head but slunk away from the State because of the strong hand of Parshuram (1701-18). After Shivaji's death, his elder son, Sambhaji, was killed by Aurangzeb, and Shahu the son of Sambhaji, was taken prisoner to Delhi. When Aurangzeb passed away, Shahu claimed his kingdom from Tarabai, who had an imbecile son, Shivaji II. Eventually Shivaji II obtained what is now known as the Kolhapur State, but the principal Mahratta kingdom passed to Shahu, who retained Parshuram Trimbuck as his Pratinidhi, and made the office hereditary by the grant of a jaghir, which yielded annually eighteen lakhs of rupees The major portion of the State was given away in charity by the ancestors of the present Chief. During his days, Parshuram wielded great influence and saved the kingdom from coming under the sway of the Mahomedan rulers. After him came in succession Shrinivas Parshuram commonly known as Shripat Rao (1718-46), Jagjivan Rao Parshuram (1746-54), Shrinivas RaoGangadhar, generally called Bhawan Rao (1754-77), Parshuram Rao Shrinivas Rao (1777-1848), Shrinivas Rao (1848-1901), Parshuram Shrinivas (1902-5), Gopal Krishna Rao (1905-7), and Bhawan Rao (Bala Saheb), the present Chief.

When Parshuram Rao Shrinivas Rao, viewing with dislike the growing power of the Peshwa, Baji Rao II, and resenting his imprisonment of the Maharajah of Satara, invaded his territory, the Peshwa turned against him, and, in the battle that ensued his right hand was cut off, and he himself was taken prisoner to Poona. He remained in captivity for eight years, when he was released and granted a small portion of his Raj, which now forms the Aundh Principality. In 1849 it became a Feudatory State, as the Satara Province lapsed to the British.

Shrinivas Rao, who ruled from 1848 to 1901, was a very capable Chief, and he brought the administration up to British standards. His reign was specially marked by the strict observance of religious and moral principles. During the regime of his successor, Parshuram Shrinivas (1902-5), the ryots were greatly benefited by large remissions granted to them ; roads were constructed ; several buildings for schools were put

up; and a spacious public hall was constructed. His son, Gopal Krishna Rao, was deposed two years after his assumption of powers. His uncle, the present Chief, Shrimant Bhawan Rao (Bala Saheb), born on the 24th October 1868, came to the *gadi* on the 4th November 1909, amidst the sincere good wishes of his numerous friends and the prayers of his subjects, who looked upon his succession as a new era in the history of Aundh. At the installation, before a distinguished gathering, he conveyed to his subjects what he intended to do for them by the simple words "I shall do my duty".

He early showed remarkable intelligence and great aptitude for learning, and his parents spared no pains in giving him an education and training befitting his rank and position. It was thought that his culture might stand him in good stead to enable him to act as a competent counsellor to the Ruling Chief, since as a junior member of the family he had no chance of succeeding to the State. Passing the Matriculation examination from the Satara High School, he joined the Deccan College, wherefrom he took the B.A. Degree in 1894. All who knew him complimented him in high terms as he was the first graduate among the princes of the Southern Mahratta country. His collegiate career was characterised by a deep devotion to study, profound reverence to the professors, and great popularity among his fellow-students. Above all, he was highly spoken of for his exemplary character. He went to Bombay to study law, but was soon called away by his aged father, Shrimant Parshuram Shrinivas Rao Pant Pratinidhi. Owing to constant famines in the State, the Chief's treasury was almost empty, and Shri Bhawan Rao, who was known for his ability and tact, saved the country from a grave crisis. He helped his father as Chief Secretary in the general administration of the principality. While young, he imbibed a great taste for painting, and, in course of time, he developed this talent without any extraneous help; and his drawings are still admired by all. He devoted special attention to illustrating the characters in the Ramayana, the completion and exhibition of which are eagerly looked forward to by his friends and admirers, both European and Indian.

He is deeply interested in encouraging trade and in promoting the indigenous manufactures. Under his auspices a factory has been established at Aundh, for the manufacture of iron agricultural implements. There is also a metal factory working under his patronage, where several articles of domestic use are prepared and sold at cheap rates; and facilities are afforded to merchants, weavers, and other artisans of the country. For boys there is a High School at the capital, and female education

too is making rapid progress as the girls are taught both English and the vernaculars. There are separate schools for the depressed classes, and it is in contemplation to provide for instruction to the children of the labourers and agriculturists at special hours suited to their convenience. Primary education is free throughout the State. For the speedy and inexpensive settlement of petty civil and criminal disputes, the Chief has introduced the system of village punchayat. He watches carefully the internal administration of the Raj. The lower offices are efficiently supervised, so that there is a regular and prompt despatch of work in every one of them. The question of the improvement of village sanitation has engaged his special attention. He does all in his power to improve agriculture, and lends a helping hand to the organizers of agricultural shows which are often held. The growing of fruit trees has become popular under his fostering care. He has established new cattle markets. He has started a fund which provides pensions for the widows and orphans of the State servants. He affords relief to his Jaghirdars and Inamdars, whose estates have become encumbered, by paying their debts and recovering the amount by easy monthly instalments. Several wells for good drinking-water have been sunk at the expense of the Durbar. Work is in progress to supply two of the towns with pure spring water by a system of pipes. He has already laid plans for the introduction of irrigation projects to free the State from famine. The breeding of horses and cattle is carried on extensively. There are many model gardens. Co-operative Credit Societies have come into existence.

The private life of the Chief is simple and pure, which makes the members of his family extremely happy. His wants are few, and he devotes as much of the revenue as can be spared to meet the public needs. His charities are liberal and beneficial to the people. He spends a good deal of his time in his library, which is greatly admired for the choice of his books, and for the variety of subjects represented. He has a promising son and heir, aged about twenty, studying in the Deccan College for the B. A. Degree Examination of the Bombay University. The Prince's marriage with a daughter of the well-known Rao Bahadur Pandit of Nagpur was recently celebrated at Aundh with great *eclat.*

The varied experiences of Shrimant Bhawan Rao Pant Pratinidhi, B.A., his desire for good government on behalf of the people, and the efforts made by him to educate the masses and to improve their economical condition, are facts that assure a permanent prosperity to the State.

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SHRIMANT NARAYAN RAO BABA SAHEB CHIEF OF ICHALKARANJI

The fertile Principality of Ichalkaranji, which is feudatory to the State of Kolhapur in the Bombay Presidency, covers an area of 240 square miles, and has a population of 60,000. Its annual revenue is Rs. 3,15,000. The climate of the country is healthy. The water of its wells being brackish, good drinking water is brought in iron pipes from the Panchganga river by the help of a steam pump raised on a tower built in the river. Every year in October a large fair attended by nearly 2,000 people is held in honour of Venkatesh, the guardian deity of the State. The chief town, Ichalkaranji, is near the Panchganga river, about eighteen miles east of the Kolhapur city. Ajra is another town of importance.

Naro Mahadev, the founder of the dynasty of the Chiefs of Ichalkarânji, was one of the pioneers of the Konkanastha Brahmin migration from the Konkan in the middle of the seventeenth century, famous in the subsequent history of the Mahrattas. Joshi was the original surname of the family, which lived at Veroda, a village near Jaigad in the Ratnägiri District. It was extreme poverty that made Naro Mahadev leave his paternal home accompanied by his mother and seek the patronage of Santajee Ghorpade, the well-known Mahratta General of Rajaram. The noble bearing of Naro Mahadev touched a sympathetic chord in the heart of the General, and the latter entertained the former in his service. When Rajaram fled to Ginjee in South India on account of the conquests of Aurangzeb in 1690, it was through the device of Naro Mahadev that the king and his party reached their destination safely. In all the military manœuvres then, Naro Mahadev proved an able lieutenant to the brave Santajee, and having distinguished himself in the field under him, during the struggle that was in progress with the Mahomedan forces he became the first favourite of the gallant General, who ever afterwards styled him his son. Naro Mahadev, on his part, was not wanting in dutiful affection towards his kind patron, and out of respect for his benefactor, he assumed the surname of "Ghorpade." He obtained from Santajee sundry villages, which served as a nucleus for the present State of Ichalkaranji, and also some insignia of royalty.

Naro Mahadev was of great service to the Maratha Empire during its struggle for independence against the Moghuls. Out of consideration for these services, his son, Venkatrao, received from Shahu, the Maharajah of Satara, a number of villages from 1722 to 1724. Naro Mahadev proved

most useful to many of the powerful and independent Chiefs, such as Savantvadi, Vantmuri, and Nipani, and obtained from them several large village-grants. He got his son, Venkat Rao Narayan, married in 1713 to the daughter of Balaji Vishwanath, the first Peshwa, and his influence among the Mahrattas thus increased largely. It was under his auspices that the Patwardhans rose to prominence.

In the battle that took place between the kings of Kolhapur and Satara, Venkat Rao Narayan (1720—44) fought on the side of the former, and was taken prisoner to Satara by Shreepat Rao Pratinidhi. It was the Peshwas, however, that ransomed him; and he then joined the service of the Satara kings and obtained further increase of honour and possessions for the family by his distinguished conduct in the field. He took a prominent part in the wars of the Mahrattas with the Portuguese. He succeeded in holding the latter in check, and conquered some territory near Goa, which was under the control of the Ghorpade family for sometime. He obtained the command of a body of horse in 1741 from a Moghul Jaghirdar of some repute. During the greater part of his life, Venkat Rao resided at Satara, where a Peith (a portion of the town) is named after him, called *Venkatpura*. Similarly he built for himself a Wada at Poona, and also received some grant of lands there. As he was always engaged in active military service, he had no fixed seat of government. He constructed a fort and a Wada at Ichalkaranji and made it the capital of the State. He died in 1744. His son, Narayan Rao Tatya (1744—70), also held command in the army of the Peshwa and was present with his contingent in all the campaigns of the south and the Carnatic undertaken by Nana Saheb and Bhau Saheb, Peshwas. In recognition of his services, he obtained from them the governorship of Dharwar, but had to relinquish it owing to his mismanagement. His alienations were, however, ratified by the king of Satara. His son, Venkat Rao Dada Saheb (1770-95), was engaged with Haripant Phadake in the Gujarat campaigns of 1774. When he was thus employed, his territory was frequently attacked by the neighbouring Rjah of Kolhapur. Anubai Saheb, the grandmother of the Chief, was in charge of the State affairs, and her intelligence safeguarded the interests of the family at this juncture. She obtained help from the Peshwas and from the Patwardhan of Miraj, and after a few skirmishes the Rajah of Kolhapur was brought to terms. A treaty was signed at Purandar between the Rajah of Kolhapur and the Peshwas, on the 13th June 1776. Among the other provisions, it contained three articles which stipulated that both the States of Ichalkaranji and Kolhapur should not molest each other in future, (2) should restore each other's territory, and (3) that an indemnity should be given to the State of Ichalkaranji by the King of Kolhapur. As the latter failed to

adhere to this treaty, there was a prospect of another battle between the two States, when the Kolhapur Durbar sent an embassy for peace, with the result that another treaty was ratified at Purandar, on the 23rd April 1778, which literally confirmed the first, so far as the interests of Ichalkaranji were concerned. In 1776 a rebellion was raised by a Kanoja Brahmin, named Sukhanidhan, who personated Sadhashiv Rao that had so mysteriously disappeared at the battle of Panipat. Venkat Rao Dada Saheb was one of the Sardars that joined him in his insurrection. This was totally crushed by Mahadaji Shinde, and the pretender was beheaded in 1777. Venkat Rao attempted to escape by sea to Bombay in order to seek British protection. He was, however, captured on his voyage by the Angria Chief and was soon set at liberty without molestation. In the subsequent crusade against all the participators in this rebellion, the whole State of Ichalkaranji was attached and had to be redeemed upon the payment of a considerable fine and Nazarana. On the death of Venkat Rao Dada Saheb in 1795 without issue, his widow, Rama Bai, adopted Narayana Rao Baba Saheb. But the sanction for this adoption was obtained at a heavy cost to the State. Because the Poona Durbar exacted Rs. 200,000 in the shape of Nazarana and, in addition, permanently saddled the State with an annual expenditure of Rs 12,000 for the maintenance of an Annachhatra (free alms-house) at Benares. At the time of his accession to the *gadi*, the State comprised only two Thanas, namely, Ichalkaranji and Ajra; for during the reign of the former ruler, Kolhapur and the Peshwas had annexed the major portion of the territory. However, Narayana Rao Baba Saheb, by his assiduous efforts, recovered most of the lost tracts. He seemed to have taken an active part in the invasion of Kolhapur, made by Ramachandrapant Appa in 1800. When Ichalkaranji itself was invested by Kolhapur, he, in spite, of the small resources at his disposal, bravely saved the town. For all these frequent aggressions made by it on the State, Kolhapur was made to pay a compensation of about Rs. 48,000 to Narayana Rao Baba Saheb, according to the terms of the treaty of 1827. He proved a very capable Chief, and at the time of his demise in the same year there was a substantial cash balance in the State treasury. He was very kind and generous to his subjects. Before his death the Peshwas' rule had come to an end, and when a list of Sardars subsequently came to be framed, the name of the Chief of Ichalkaranji was entered in the first class, an honour which is still enjoyed. Above all, he was blessed with a happy family. All his sons and daughters were excellent administrators. One of the latter, Waru Bai, who had married the Chief of Miraj (Junior), was credited with having redeemed the State of Miraj from money lenders and was also highly spoken of for her subsequent successful management of it. Similarly, Ganga

Bai Mai Saheb, the wife of Narayana Rao Baba Saheb, was very popular and is still remembered for her generous gifts and the medical aid she rendered to the needy. Narayan Rao Baba Saheb was succeeded by his eldest son, Venkat Rao Saheb, who died intestate in 1838, and after him came his younger brother, Keshav Rao Tatya Saheb (1838-52).

The days of Keshav Rao Tatya Saheb were mostly spent in solving many delicate points of vital interest to the principality. The States of Kolhapur and Ichalkaranji had maintained antagonistic relations for nearly a century and a half. In 1848 it was decided that Ichalkaranji was a feudatory of Kolhapur. However, certain reservations were made in favour of Ichalkaranji, the principal among which was that no interference in its administration was to be made by Kolhapur. The province was encumbered, but at the intervention of the British Government an arrangement was come to with the creditors before it was discharged. Many boundary disputes were decided, and a beginning was made for the introduction of a settled method of administration. The Deshmukhi Vatan was allowed to be under the enjoyment of the Ichalkaranji State, in consideration of an annual payment to, and without any further exaction or molestation by, the Kolhapur Durbar. In 1852 the Chief died without an heir. He failed to avail himself of the special permission granted to him to adopt a son, in recognition of his loyalty and valuable services during the rebellion of Samangad about the year 1844. On the permission of the Court of Directors, his widow adopted in 1852 a boy from the agnate family of Muddebihal and named him Venkat Rao Saheb, but unfortunately he died soon after his marriage in 1854. Another boy, Govind Rao Aba Saheb, from the family of Hooprikar Joshi, was selected in 1864. He was a promising Prince, but he too passed away in 1876, after eighteen months' rule over the State. His widow, the daughter of the Chief of Miraj, adopted the present Chief, Shrimant Narayan Rao Baba Saheb.

He received an excellent education in the Sardars' class attached to the Raja-Ram College, Kolhapur, and afterwards at the Elphinstone College, Bombay. In 1892 he was invested with full administrative powers. At the commencement of his rule, the State had to discharge an old debt of Rs. 45,000 and it borrowed in 1897, Rs. 30,000 to give relief to the famine-stricken. He is now free from all debts, and there is a decent balance of Rs. 200,000, in the treasury. The expenditure on education, medicine, police, and forest has been considerably increased. During the regime of this Chief, the number of schools has risen from seventeen to forty-seven. In 1892 there was only one aided school, but now there are twenty-one institutions receiving State aid. Besides these, there are five girls' schools, and

four schools entirely for the depressed classes. Two new schools have been opened at Ichalkaranji for training students in ancient Sanskrit and Vedic scriptures. Education is *free* throughout the principality.

For over twelve years, Shrimant Narayan Rao Baba Saheb was a Member of the Bombay Legislative Council, and this is a sure proof of the high esteem in which he is held both by the Government and by his constituents, the Sardars of the Deccan, whom he had the honour to represent in the Council.

The Chief of Ichalkaranji, who proceeded to England in the beginning of 1913, delivered a lecture before the East India Association, on the 23rd June 1913, and warmly commended the British administration of India. He said that though there might be spasmodic discontent, there was not widespread or real dissatisfaction; that it was recognised that the interests of the two countries were now identical; and that, under the ægis of the British Empire alone, their national growth and progress were continuous. After touching on some of the results in detail, the Chief said that there was no doubt a debit side to the account though he was not there to state it; that India made certain sacrifices for the benefits of British rule; but, while under former alien domination, she received no return for the sacrifice of her liberty, she now had more than equivalent advantages.

He further added that the advantage which she still sought should proceed on lines in harmony with Indian ideals and traditions, not exactly on those which were supposed to have achieved the restless modern civilisation of the West. Lord Reay, Chairman, Lord Lamington, Sir George Birdwood and Colonel Yate spoke appreciatively of the lecture. Lord Lamington observed that their work in India would not be over till India was capable of successfully combining in one great whole to resist the aggression of some other Great Power.

The Baba Saheb has very recently published a singularly interesting book—*Impressions of British Life and Character* recording his opinions of what he saw. The book has an introduction by Lord George Hamilton who calls attention to the excellent and pregnant English in which the work is written, and the singular shrewdness and perception which the writer evinces in his descriptions. The impressions cover a very large number of topics and are very interesting as emanating from a mind rationalised by Western education and wide experience. The book concludes with an interesting chapter on Britain and India, in which the Baba Saheb expresses considerable hope for the future and asserts that "Despite occasional mutterings, British Rule in India stands on a firmer footing to-day, and the loyalty of the millions of the Indian Empire is more real and genuine than ever before."

The wide culture of the Chief and his good legislative experience are real guarantees that the State will continue to be governed on the noble principles of humanity and justice.

SIR GANGADHAR RAO GANESH, K. C. I. E., CHIEF OF MIRAJ (SENIOR BRANCH)

The State of Miraj, under the control of the Political Agent for Kolhapur and the Southern Mahratta country, covers an area of 339 square miles, with a population of about 90,000, spread over five towns and fifty-nine villages. It has three divisions: one in the valley of the Kistna, another in the south of the Dharwar District, and the third in the heart of the Sholapur District. The tracts, through which the river Kistna runs, are flat and rich. The soil, in general, is of the black cotton variety. Rivulets, tanks, and wells, are the only sources of irrigation. The climate is dry, and is extremely hot from March to May. Millet, wheat, gram, sugar-cane, and cotton, form the chief crops. Among the manufactures are coarse cotton cloth and musical instruments. The revenue is about four lakhs, of which the sum of Rs. 12,558 is paid as tribute to the British Government. The family holds the usual sanad of adoption, and in point of succession it follows the law of primogeniture. The State has five municipalities, of which Miraj and Lakshmeshwar are the most prominent. For purposes of education, there are thirty institutions. Medical aid is rendered in three dispensaries. The police force consists of nearly 250 officers and men. Miraj town, the capital of the Senior Branch, is near the Kistna, a few miles south-east of Sangli, with a population of about 20,000. A High School and a dispensary are located in it. Miraj is an off-shoot of Sangli. The progenitor of the family, Govind Hari Patwardhan, obtained the Miraj State from the Peshwa, Madhava Rao, in 1794. It was divided into four branches in 1820, two of which subsequently lapsed into British territories. The present Ruler, Shrimant Gangadhar Rao Ganesh, born in 1866, received his education at the Rajkumar College, Indore. He was created a K. C. I. E. in 1903, and is a first-class Sardar of the Southern Mahratta Country. He is an enlightened Chief, and rules over his principality to the satisfaction of the Political Officers, and to the benefit of his subjects.

SHRIMANT MADHAV RAO HARIHAR
CHIEF OF MIRAJ (JUNIOR BRANCH)

This branch of the Miraj State is also under the Political Agent for Kolhapur and the Southern Mahratta Country. It covers an area of 211 square miles, and has a population of about 40,000. There are three towns, and thirty-one villages, the largest of the towns being Bhudgaon, with a population of 4,000, where the Chief resides. Almost all the people are Hindus, with a sprinkling of Mahomedans and Jains. The principality is divided into three portions : the first adjoins the Bankapur taluka of the Dharvar District; the second is near the Tasgaon taluka of the Satara District; and the third lies in close proximity to the Pandharpur taluka of the Sholapur District. The soil is of the black cotton kind. Among the products are Indian millet, wheat, gram, and cotton. Coarse cotton cloth is the only manufacture of any importance. The family history of the Chief of this branch is the same as that of the senior branch. Harihar Rao Dada Saheb, born in 1833, succeeded to the *gadi* on the 5th February 1876. He was the grandson of Gangadhar Rao Govind, son of Govind Hari Patwardhan, the founder of the State. He was followed by Lakshman Rao Harihar, also known as Anna Saheb Patwardhan. The present Chief, Shrimant Madhav Rao Harihar, has the rank of a first-class Sardar in the Southern Mahratta Country. He exercises full powers in civil, revenue, and criminal cases, and tries his subjects for capital offences. The family holds the usual sanad of adoption, and in point of succession it follows the law of primogeniture. The revenue of the State is more than four lakhs, of which the sum of Rs. 6,412 is paid as tribute to the British Government. The strength of the police is about 200. Instruction is imparted in nearly forty schools. For medical aid there are two dispensaries. Vaccination is popular.

SHRIMANT BHALCHANDRA RAO CHINTAMAN RAO
CHIEF OF KURANDVAD (SENIOR BRANCH)

Kurandvad is one of the Native States under the Political Agent for Kolhapur and the Southern Mahratta Country. Its area is 185 square miles, and it has a population of about 50,000, Hindus, of course, predominating. It has two divisions : the ruler of one is known as the Senior Chief, and that of the other as the Junior Chief. The Senior Branch consists of one town, Kurandvad, the head-quarters, and thirty-seven villages. The important crops raised in the State are millet, rice, wheat, gram and cotton. Among the manufactures are coarse cotton cloth, and articels of female apparel. The revenue is more than two lakhs, and the tribute payable to the British Government is Rs. 9,619. The Durbar maintains twenty schools and two dispensaries. The Chief is a Konkanastha Brahmin, claiming descent from Hari Rath, a native of Kotwadi. One of his successors, Trimbak Rao, obtained Kurandvad in inam from the Peshwa, for feudal service. In 1811 the principality was split up into two parts, one being known as Kurandvad, and the other Shebdal. For want of an heir, Shebdal lapsed to the British Government in 1857. Raghunath Rao and Ganpat Rao on the one side, and Vinayak Rao and Trimbak Rao on the other, with the concurrence of the Supreme Power, divided the State into two branches, senior and junior. When Trimbak Rao passed away in 1869 without a male child, his share of the jaghir was granted to Ganpat Rao and Vinayak Rao. What belonged to him in the inam estate reverted to the senior Chief, Raghunath Rao. Chintaman Rao Raghunath, born in 1850, succeeded to the State in 1876. His son, Shrimant Bhalchandra Rao Chintaman Rao, is the present Chief. He is a first-class Sardar in the Southern Mahratta Country. He exercises full powers, and tries his subjects for capital offences. The family holds the usual sanad of adoption, and succession is regulated by the law of primogeniture.

THAKUR KARANSINHJI VAJIRAJJI, C.S.I., THAKUR OF THAN LAKHTAR

Lakhtar (Than Lakhtar), a third class State in the Kathiawar Political Agency, Bombay, covers an area of 248 square miles, with a population of about 20,000 scattered about fifty-one villages. It is divided into two parts, Than and Lakhtar, and owns some villages in the Ahmedabad District. It is devoid of rivers and hills, but has some rocky tracts. A fifth of the total area is under cultivation, and nearly four square miles have irrigation facilities. Among the products are cotton and the usual grains. Than is noted for its pottery. It is surrounded by a fort, and has a population of about 2,000. It is said to be one of the most ancient places in India, and its neighbouring parts are considered to be holy ground. Than is well known for its local traditions. It finds a prominent place in several *puranas*. Quite close to it there are many shrines and tanks held sacred by Hindus. It would appear that the first temple dedicated to the Sun was built by Rajah Mandhata in Satya Yug. In 1690 the Viceroy of Gujarat stormed the town and levelled the old temple. The present temple is built on the former site. Than is said to have been originally a large city, with a population of 250,000. The Chiefs of Lakhtar are Jhala Rajputs and claim descent from one of the ancestors of the Dhrangadra ruling family. It would appear that the taluka of Lakhtar was conferred on Abhaisinghji, the son of Raj Chandrasinghji, by the Chief of Dhrangadra. Abhaisinghji enlarged his principality by conquering the surrounding tracts from the Babrias between 1604 and 1615. The present Chief, Thakur Karansinghji Vajirajji, born on the 10th January 1846, succeeded to the *gadi* as an infant, barely a year old. During his minority, the State was under the management of the Court of Wards. He enjoys all the powers of a third-class ruler. At the Delhi Durbar of 1911, His Imperial Majesty was pleased to confer on him the distinction of C.S.I. He is well advanced in age and is a popular Chief.

MEHERBAN MUDHOJI RAO JAN RAO NAIK NIMBALKAR, C.S.I., CHIEF OF PHALTAN

Phaltan, a Native State under the political superintendence of the Collector of Satara in the Bombay Presidency, lies within the Deccan trap. It covers an area of 397 square miles, with a population of about 50,000 spread over one town and seventy-one villages. Its annual revenue is nearly three lakhs, of which the sum of Rs. 9,600 is paid as tribute to the British Government. The river Nira waters the tracts. The Chief enjoys full administrative powers; but criminal cases requiring capital punishment or transportation for life are tried by the Political Agent, the preliminary proceedings being held by the Chief himself. The State was surveyed in 1869, and a revision settlement took place in 1894-5. It maintains a small police force of a little over 150 officers and men, who also serve as bodyguard to the ruler. Instruction is imparted in about forty schools, and medical aid is rendered in one dispensary. Phaltan, the chief town of the State, which is situated thirty-seven miles north-east of Satara, has a population of 10,000. It was founded by Nimbraji in the fourteenth century. It is a fine place with clean streets and shady trees. It has a municipality with an annual income of about 20,000 rupees. The Chiefs of Phaltan come of a very ancient Mahratta family, and claim descent from one Podaka Jagdeo, who served under the Emperor of Delhi and fell in battle in 1327. The Emperor conferred a jaghir on his son, Nimbraji, with the title of Naik. The Rajah of Satara attached it in 1825, and restored it to the then Chief, Banaji Naik, on payment of a nazarana or succession fee of Rs. 30,000. Within a year it was again attached and held by the Satara durbar until 1841. The same year the ruler of Phaltan passed away, and his widow, Sahejibai, adopted the present Chief, Mudhoji Rao Jan Rao Naik Nimbalkar, born on the 5th November 1838. He was invested with full administrative powers in March 1860. He was a member of the Legislative Council of Bombay for some years. At the Delhi Durbar of 1911, he obtained the well-merited distinction of C. S. I. His connections are very high, and he commands great respect in the Presidency.

THAKUR SAHEB WAKHATSINGHJI KESRISINGHJI, C. I. E., THAKUR SAHEB OF SAYLA

Sayla is a third-class State in the Kathiawar Political Agency, Bombay, with an area of 222 square miles and a population of about 15,000 spread over one town and thirty-eight villages. Its annual revenue is nearly Rs. 75,000 A third of the area is under cultivation. Sayla, the chief town of the State, which has a population of 6,000, is situated at a distance of sixteen miles from the Chuda railway station, and eighteen miles south-west of Wadhvan, near the large tank, known as Manasarowar. It is said that Sidhraj Jai Singh, the famous King of Anhilvada, had built the town. Sayla is noted for a temple dedicated to Ramachandra, and constructed by a Baniya saint, Lala Bhagat, in the beginning of the last century. Food is supplied every day to travellers, ascetics, and others. There is a brisk trade in cotton and grain. It is recorded in the *Ain-i-Akbari* that Sayla was a pargana of Jhalawar. Kathis came in possession of it by the eighteenth century. The rulers of Sayla are Jhala Rajputs. Shesha Bhai, the son of the Halavad Chief, captured Sayla in 1751, and made it an appanage of the giras of Narichana and Liya, which he had seized while trying to take possession of Dhrangadra. His successor, Kakobhai, commonly known as Vikmatsingh, came under British influence in 1818. Kesrisinghji, who ruled over the principality from 1837 to 1881, obtained the personal distinction of *Thakur Saheb*. The present Chief, Wakhatsinghji Kesri Singhji, born in 1846, succeeded to the *gadi* on the 4th October 1881. Some years after he had been invested with full powers, the personal title of *Thakur Saheb* was granted to him. He was created a C. I. E. in June 1912. His connections are respectable. He is well advanced in age, and is popular with his brother Chiefs as well as with the officers of the Agency.

SIR PARASHRAM RAO RAMACHANDRA RAO, K. C. I. E., CHIEF OF JAMKHANDI.

Jamkhandi is a Native State under the Political Agent for Kolhapur and the Southern Mahratta Country. It covers an area of 524 square miles, and has a population of more than 1,00,000 spread over eight towns and seventy-nine villages. Nine-tenths of the people are Hindus, and the rest Mahomedans. The chief crops grown are cotton, wheat, the ordinary kinds of pulse, and millet. Coarse cotton cloth and rough blankets, form the important manufactures. The revenue is about six lakhs, of which the sum of Rs. 20,516 is paid as tribute to the British Government. The principality was surveyed in 1881-82. It has six municipalities, the largest being Jamkhandi, and the smallest Hunnur. For purposes of education there are nearly fifty schools, including one English school. Medical aid is afforded in one hospital and three dispensaries. Vaccination is popular. The State forces consist of fifty cavalry and two hundred and twenty infantry. The Chief, who exercises full powers, is empowered to try his subjects for capital offences. Jamkhandi town, the capital of the principality, has a population of about 15,000. It is a trading centre and deals largely in silk cloths There are more than 500 looms at work. An annual fair, in honour of the god, Uma Rameshwar, is held for six days consecutively. A member of the Patwardhan family, a Brahmin by caste, obtained the State from the Peshwa. In 1808 it was divided into two parts, of which Tasgaon lapsed to the British for failure of a male heir. Ram Chandra Rao Gopal, born in 1834, succeeded to the State in 1840. The present Chief, Shrimant Parashram Rao Ramachandra Rao, also known as Bhau Saheb Patwardhan, was born in 1883. He has travelled widely in India and in England. He is a highly cultured ruler and has already given proof of his great capacity for administration by the introduction of many salutary reforms in the State. He has made primary education free throughout the principality. He won the well-merited distinction of K.C.I.E. on the 1st January 1913.

SHRIMANT CHINTAMAN RAO DHUNDI RAO
CHIEF OF SANGLI

The Sangli State, under the control of the Political Agent for Kolhapur and the Southern Mahratta Jaghirs, Bombay, covers an area of 1,112 square miles, and has a population of about 250,000. It consists of six separate divisions. Its annual revenue is nearly twenty lakhs. The soil is of the black cotton variety. Rivers, wells, and tanks, constitute the important sources of irrigation. The Chief, who is a first-class Sardar in the Southern Mahratta Country, exercises full civil, criminal, and revenue powers. He can also try capital offences. The police force consists of five hundred officers and men. Instruction is imparted in about a hundred schools, including one High School, six Anglo-Vernacular schools, and ten girls' schools. There are six municipalities, the most important of them being Sangli and Shahapur. Medical aid is afforded in nearly ten dispensaries. Vaccination is popular. Sangli town, the capital of the State, is on the river Kistna, with a population of 20,000. The fort, which contains the palace of the Chief, and the public offices, was brought into existence a century ago. The rulers of Sangli are Konkani Brahmins connected with the Patwardhan family. They claim descent from Haribhat, a family priest of the Chief of Ichalkaranji. The Peshwa, Madhav Rao, granted the jaghir to Haribhat's son, Govind Rao, and two grandsons. Chintaman Rao, the grandson of Govinda Rao, became the Chief in 1772. During his minority, his uncle, Gangadhar Rao, managed the State. Later on, the uncle and the nephew quarelled, and, as a result, the former took Miraj, and the latter Sangli. Chintaman Rao, the grandfather of the present ruler of Sangli, came under British protection in 1818. In recognition of his high character and loyalty, the East India Company presented him with a sword in 1846. On his death in 1851, his son, Dhundi Rao Chintaman Rao, succeeded to the State. The present Chief is Shrimant Chintaman Rao Dhundi Rao.

NAWAB SAIYID GHULAM ALI KHAN BAHADUR
NAWAB OF BANGANAPALLE

Banganapalle is the only Mahomedan State in South India under the direct political control of the Government of Madras. It covers an area of 275 square miles with a population of about 32,000. Its total revenue is nearly three lakhs, and it pays no tribute. The hills near Banganapalle contain diamond deposits. An area of eighteen square miles has been leased out to Khan Bahadur Waljee Laljee Sait for twenty years, and the mines are worked by a syndicate from Madras. The principal town, Banganapalle, is surrounded by beautiful fruit gardens on the banks of the Joraru and the Vagu.

The State has a very interesting history, and its rulers played no mean part in the political struggles of the Deccan during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The Jaghirdars, as the Nawabs of Banganapalle were originally called, belong to two historical Mahomedan families and trace their descent on the one side to a grand Vazeer of Aurangazeb, the great Moghul Emperor, and, on the other, to Sayid Mahomed Khan Razvi, the great Minister of Shah Abbas II, of Persia. It is said that Tahir Ali, the younger of the sons of the Persian Minister, had to flee from the country to escape the envy of his brother, and while wandering about in the garb of a *fakhir* at Bijapur, he was picked up by the Minister of Adil Shah. He was so much captivated by the intelligence, noble bearing, and handsome appearance of the young adventurer that he made him his son-in-law, and advanced him in life as an officer of the Bijapur Kingdom.

The ruler of Bijapur in his turn was greatly attracted by the superior intelligence of Tahir Ali, and thus provoked the envy of his brothers-in-law, who compassed his death through hired assassins. The unfortunate widow fled with her two sons from her unnatural brothers, and took shelter in the Carnatic. Nothing was known about the elder boy, whose mind seemed to have given way under these trials and



THE NAWAB OF BANGANAPALLE

calamites. But the younger, Saiyid Mahomed Khan Nakhde, rose to be a General in the army of Nawab Sadat-ulla-Khan of the Carnatic. He married a grand-daughter of Fazle Ali Khan, Jaghirdar of Banganapalle.

Fazle Ali Khan was a descendant of Mahomed Beg Khan, a relation of Mubaraz Khan, the grand Vazeer of Aurangzeb, on whom was conferred the jaghir of Banganapalle by the Moghul Emperor. The ancient history of the State is merged in a mere tradition. It would appear that the tracts once belonged to one Rajah Nanda Chakravarthi of Nandavaram and his descendants. It was conquered from them by Adil Shah, King of Bijapur, and given in jaghir to Siddhi Sambul, his General. After the dismemberment of the kingdom of Bijapur, about 1665, Mahomed Beg Khan Rosebahandi, an uncle of Mubaraz Khan, the Vazeer of Aurangzeb, was made the Killadar of Banganapalle. He was recognised in this office by the great Nizam-ul-Mulk, when he became the Viceroy of the Deccan, and later on the jaghir was permanently conferred on him and his descendants by the Court at Delhi, under the seal of Rafi-ud- Darjat, a grandson of Aurangzeb. Mahomed Beg Khan continued to be the Jaghirdar until 1725. Three rulers came after him in succession—Ata Khan, his son-in-law (1725-28), Fazle Ali Khan, the brother-in-law of Ata Khan, (1728-37), and Fazle Ali Khan II, the son of the latter (1737-69). Fazle Ali Khan II seems to have purposely avoided marriage with a view to secure the succession to his sister's son, Saiyid Hussain Ali Khan, the son of Mahomed Khan Nakhde, the Persian General of the Nawab of the Carnatic, already referred to. Thus the Nawabs of Banganapalle trace their descent directly from Saiyid Hussain Ali Khan who was in possession of the jaghir from 1769 to 1783. It was during the reign of this Prince that the tribute payable to the Nawab of the Carnatic was permanently remitted, and the jaghir became free. Hussain Ali Khan sought military service under Hyder Ali, who was then coming to prominence, and won great distinction as a General. Immediately after Hyder's death, he passed away in 1783, on his way back to Banganapalle. Tippu, the son of Hyder, was, however, much exasperated at the conduct of the widow of Hussain Ali, who refused to send her children to Mysore on the score of tender age, and he confiscated the jaghir, which was annexed to the Mysore State. Hussain Ali's widow, her four sons, and her brother-in-law, Saiyid Asad Ali Khan, then took refuge in Hyderabad. Asad Ali Khan later on rose to eminence as a General under the Nizam and was able to recover Banganapalle for his nephew, Ghulam Ali Khan, by defeating Kutbudin, a deputy of Tippu's at Thammadapalle in 1721. Saiyid Ghulam Ali Khan became the Jaghirdar of Banganapalle, and continued to rule over that State until 1822, through an Agent or Naib, while he himself was winning fame as a General under

the Nizam and obtained for himself the title of *Mansur-ud-daulah*. The Ceded Districts, however, came into the possession of the English in 1798, when Banganapalle was brought under British protection. The offer of the East India Company to the Mansur-ud-daulah to exchange Banganapalle for Adoni was declined on the ground that he would not give up the place where his forefathers were buried, though Adoni had twice the income of his own jaghir. Saiyid Hussain Ali Khan II, the son of Ghulam Ali Khan Mansur-ud-daulah, was the ruler from 1822 to 1848, and in his time, the jaghir, owing to financial troubles, was managed by the East India Company. On his death in 1848, he was succeeded by his brother's son, Saiyid Fateh Ali Khan Bahadur, C. S. I., the late Nawab, who lived until the 22nd April 1905.

He was a very generous-minded and noble Prince. The hereditary distinction of *Nawab* was conferred on him by a special sanad of Lord Northbrooke's, dated the 24th January 1876. The Nawab had the rare honour of meeting His late Majesty King Edward VII, when the latter visited Madras as Prince of Wales in 1875-76, and received from His Royal Highness a silver medal and a fine double-barrelled revolver as presents. But during the latter part of his rule, the State got into financial difficulties, and was managed by the Madras Government through an Assistant Political Agent, Mr. J. C. Malony, I. C. S., whose efficient and economic administration soon made the principality quite solvent. On the lamented death of the Nawab in 1905, his son, Saiyid Ghulam Ali Khan Bahadur, who was specially trained in administrative work by the aforesaid agent, became the Nawab.

He was invested with full powers at a special durbar in Banganapalle by His Excellency Sir Arthur Lawley, Governor of Madras, on the 12th December 1908. The Nawab was born in October 1873. He lost his wife on the 26th September 1908, but has two sons and a daughter. The heir apparent, Fazle Ali Khan, is about fourteen years of age.

After the assumption of the chiefship by the present Nawab, a village called after him, "Ghulam Ali Abad," and many schools for boys and girls have been established. Education has been made free in the principality. Boys are sent out with liberal scholarships for higher education. In the Technical Institute at the capital, carpentry and dairy making are taught. Sericultural operations have been successfully carried out by Mr. B. P. Ghatala, Superintendent of Industries. About 1½ maunds of silk have been produced till now. Many hands are at work. The State service has been made pensionable. A forest department and a record office have been opened. Two large tanks have been sunk for irrigation purposes. The Chief subscribed Rs. 75,000 for the Madras War Fund and Rs. 25,000 for the Imperial War Relief Fund.

The Nawab is a popular and sympathetic Chief with winning and affable manners, and the State is doing well under his care.

SHRIMANT RAJAH VENKAT RAO
RAJAH OF SANDUR

Lying in a valley between two parallel ranges of hills formed of Dharwar rocks, and clothed with long grass and thick forest, is Sandur, the smallest of the five Native States in political relationship with the Government of Madras. It covers an area of 164 square miles and has a population of 13,526. One-eighth of the area is under cultivation, the rest being forest or unfit for tillage. Between 1865 and 1871 a rough survey of the State was made with the aid of the village accountants. The revenue does not much exceed half a lakh. The soil of the territory is a rich heavy loam, which compares favourably with that of the adjoining areas. There is practically no black cotton soil, and in consequence, no late crops, such as cotton, are grown. Dry crops are raised from the early part of June to the middle of July, and reaped in October. The valley is cooler than the neighbouring District of Bellary and receives more rain than any other part of it, the average fall approaching thirty inches annually. Considering its conformation, it is singularly free from malaria. The silvery streaks of hills and streams running down the hill sides present a most delightful appearance. The gorges, Obalagandi, two and a half miles from Sandur, and Bhimanagandi, through which the Narihalla stream enters and leaves the country, are sights famous for their picturesqueness. There is plenty of game, the cheeta, the wild boar, and the sambar abounding in the forests. Pea-fowl is also numerous, but the bird is left unmolested, as it is held sacred to Kumaraswami or Subrahmaniam, to whom is dedicated an important shrine on a hill 3,400 feet high in the south-eastern corner of the State. The Ramandrug plateau, in the centre of the southern line of hills, 3,256 feet above the sea-level, is noted for its salubrious climate and mineral springs. There are many bungalows here used as residences by Europeans and others in summer. The most important buildings of antiquarian interest in the country are the fort of Krishnanagar, the ancient fortress at Ramandrug, and the temple of Kumaraswami which is beautifully situated in a natural amphitheatre of wooded

slopes near the top of the hills, seven miles from the Sandur town. The inscriptions in the building show that it was brought into existence so far back as A. D. 950, but architecturally it is disappointing. There are about 2,000 Mahomedans in the principality, and the Lingayats and Bedars, representing the old fighting class, number over 2,000. A thousand Mahrattas, with a fair sprinkling of Brahmins, live in the State. The Sadars, the Madigas, and the Kurubas, are the principal agricultural classes. Canarese is the prevailing language. Cholum is the staple product. Pulses, oil-seeds, betel-leaf, and tobacco are also grown. Wells constitute the chief source of irrigation. Forests, which contain good sandalwood trees, make up more than three-fourths of the State. About 40,000 acres of these have been leased out to the Government of Madras for an annual rental of Rs. 8,000. The country is rich in minerals. There are valuable deposits of iron and manganese. The principality contains no natural salt or salt-earth, and therefore no complications arise with the Salt Department in British territory. The only manufacture of importance is coarse woollen blankets, woven by the shepherd caste of the Kurubas from the fleeces of the sheep of the country. The Collector of Bellary is the ex-officio Political Agent. The administration is in the hands of a Dewan, who is invested with the powers of a first-class Magistrate, District Munsiff, Divisional Officer, and District Registrar. All the revisional powers are retained by the Rajah. Under the terms on which the State is held, sentences of death cannot be passed without the sanction of the Government of Madras. Special rules regarding criminal jurisdiction are in force in the sanitarium of Ramandrug. Extradition from the territory is arranged through the Political Agent, and is usually sanctioned only when the offence is of a minor description. Serious criminal cases are disposed of by the Rajah. The laws are generally those observed in British India. The State pays no tribute. The British coins are in circulation. Peace is preserved by a police force of about thirty-five officers and men. Medical aid is afforded in one dispensary at the capital. Education is imparted in one higher grade elementary school, a girls' school, and seven primary schools.

The Rajah of Sandur is a scion of the ancient Mahratta family of Ghorpades, a name said to have been earned by an ancestor, who is credited to have scaled a precipitous fort by clinging to an iguana or *ghorpad*. Since 1728 when the State first came into the hands of the ruling family, it has had an eventful history. It was captured by one Siddoji Rao, an ancestor of the present Rajah, whose grandfather had been in the service of the Sultan of Bijapur. Siddoji's father joined the Mahratta revolt against Bijapur and earned the distinction of *Hindu Rao* and *Mamalkat Madar* (Centre

of the State), titles still used by the Rajahs of Sandur. Sidddoji's son was the great Murari Rao, who figured so much in the wars of the Carnatic. He came into conflict with Hyder Ali, who annexed the whole of the territory, and began to build the fort of Krishnanagar, which was finished and garrisoned by his son, Tippu. Murari Rao himself died as a prisoner at *Kabbaldurga. His two sons having passed away in childhood,* his adopted son, Siva Rao, fell in a vain attempt to recover Sandur from Tippu. Venkat Rao, the guardian of Siddoji, the two-year-old son of Siva Rao, however, drove out Tippu's *troops and regained possession of the place.* After the treaty of Seringapatam in 1792, the rights of the Ghorpades to Sandur were recognised, and Sandur passed under the East India Company along with Bellary. In the meanwhile, Baji Rao, the Peshwa, had granted the State to Jasvant Rao, an Officer in Sindhia's army. Failing in his attempts to take it from Siva Rao, he appealed to the Company to restore it to him, contending that Siva Rao was the vassal of the Peshwa, and that the English, according to the treaty of Bassein, must assist Baji Rao in *reducing refractory vassals. Having been prevailed upon by Munro, who* was asked to settle the matter, Siva Rao resigned possession of Sandur and obtained an estate in the Bellary District; but the power of the Peshwas came to an end in 1815, and Munro again recommended the restoration of Sandur to Siva Rao. A sanad was accordingly granted in 1826. Siva Rao died in 1840 and was succeeded by his nephew and adopted son, Venkat Rao. He passed away in 1861, and his son left the State to Siva Shanmukha Rao. In 1876 the hereditary distinction of *Rajah* was conferred on him. *He ruled till 1878, and was followed by his brother,* Rajah Ramchandra Vittal Rao. He was made a C. I. E. in 1892 just before his death. His son, the present ruler, Rajah Venkat Rao, came to the *gadi* as a minor.

He was born on the 10th July 1892, and was barely six months old at the time of his father's demise. He received his education for some years at Bellary, and later, at the Newington Institution, Madras. He married Princess Tara Raja Sahiba of Akalkot on the 7th June 1908. He has two daughters, the elder born in August 1911, and the younger in October 1912. He was invested with full administrative powers on the 19th July 1913. During his minority, the State was ably managed by Dewan Bahadur T. Kothandarama Naidu, whose services had been lent by the Madras Government to Sandur, and who made a name as an officer of exceptional abilities and sterling honesty. The full titles of the Rajah are—Shreemant Venkat Rao, Rao Sahib, Hindu Rao Ghorpade, Mamalkat Madar, Senapathi, Rajah of Sandur.

The Rajah Saheb, who has received a good training, will, no doubt, prove a successful Chief.

RANA BHAGAT CHAND BAHADUR
RANA OF JUBBAL.

Forty miles from Simla, and between the States of Sirmur and Rampur Bashahr, lies the picturesque small Himalayan Principality of Jubbal, otherwise known as the Forest State, with an area of 288 square miles and a population of about 26,000. Kanets, who are agriculturists, form the majority of the population. A large portion of the cultivable area is in the possession of Kanets. The Rajputs, as in the other parts of the hills, are divided into two classes, upper and lower. Turis too are agriculturists, but their distinctive occupation is music. They live either near a temple or at the headquarters of a Chief. The other castes are represented by Kolis, Rehrs, and some Mahomedans One of the most interesting of the various cults is that of Sri Gul, whose principal temple is on the Chor mountain. The annual revenue of the State comes to nearly two lakhs and a half, of which the sum of Rs. 2,520 is paid as tribute to the British Government. 244 square miles of the country, that is about five-sixths of the total area, are covered with forests, which are particularly rich, and which largely contribute to the revenue of the principality The Deodar and Kail timbers of Jubbal are the best-known in the market. The forest abound in excellent game, and the country affords large fields for pasture Cattle of the ordinary hill breed are of an excellent kind. Among the wild animals may be mentioned the black bear, cheetah, musk deer, boar and amu. Sheep and goats are reared on a large scale. There are more than ten peaks scattered over the tracts, of which Chor, the highest, is about 12,000 feet above the sea-level. The climate is pleasant and salubrious. There are many streams and streamlets running through the tracts, affording sources of irrigation on a small scale, the chief of them being the Bishkalti, the Minus, the Tons and the Shalvi. The soil, as may be expected on the Himalayan slopes, is very fertile. Rice maize, wheat, millet, barley, and pulses, are the chief products. Poppy is sown widely. Opium is manufactured largely, and it forms one of the principal articles of trade. Pattu cloth, and *gudmas* or blankets, called *dhabli*, are made out of sheep's wool. Jubbal has some reputation for its wood and stone carving; for pendases made of wood, and for its metal work in the shape of trumpets, drums, etc. As the forests constitute the important source of revenue, special attention is paid to their efficient management, and they are now under the able control of a Superintendent, Dolat Ram, B. A., Extra Assistant Conservator. For administrative purposes, the State is divided into two tahsils,

the Tahsildar exercising revenue and judicial powers. Hindi and Urdu are the official languages. The Adalat Alia is the highest court, presided over by the Rana himself. Then comes the Adalat Sadar, under the presidency of the Prime Minister controlling the smaller subordinate courts. There is a central jail at the capital with two sub-jails in each of the tahsils. A small police force consisting of two Sub-Inspectors, three sergeants, and twenty-five constables, with two guns, distributed over three stations, serves to preserve the peace. Rawin and Dhadi are two smaller States tributary to Jubbal. Medical aid is afforded in two dispensaries and adequate provision is made for public instruction. Primary education is free in the State. A large boarding house is attached to the Anglo-vernacular school at Deora, the capital.

Tradition has it that the ancestors of the present Ranas of Jubbal were once the rulers of Sirmur. They belong to the Rathor clan of Chandra Bansi Rajputs, and they trace their descent from Bharata of the Mahabharata. Their transfer from Sirmur to Jubbal is accounted for in the following manner :—One Ugar Chand, the Rajah of Sirmur, had a summer palace at Soonpur, the modern Hatkoti. While he was having a pleasant time with his three sons, he was called back to Sirmur on State business. Leaving his family behind, he went thither, but owing to heavy rains, the rivers were in flood, and he and his principal officers found watery graves, and there was none to carry the news to the royal children. A Raj Kumar of the Jaisalmir house happening to be there at the time on Badrinath pilgrimage, he was installed on the *gadi* by the Pundits of the principality, and thus the country was once for all lost to the descendants of Ugar Chand.

The three sons of Ugar Chand—Karam Chand, Mool Chand, and Dunni Chand—then respectively became the founders of the States of Jubbal, Sairi, and Rawin, the last two of which still continue under Jubbal.

Jubbal, as an independent State, came under British protection after the first Gurkha war, and its then ruler, Puran Chand, received a sanad from Lord Moira, dated the 18th November 1815. But the territory drifted into disorder, and he had to hand it over to the British for management, and received an allowance of Rs. 4,400. It was, however, restored to his son, Karam Chand, after the death of his father in 1849. Karam Chand was a strong and able ruler. In 1857 another sanad of adoption, in case of failure of direct issue, was granted to Rana Karam Chand in recognition of his services during the Mutiny. In his time, two fine palaces were built, one at Jubbal, and the other at Chupahal. He had also four temples erected at Gheri, a summer resort well known for its excellent scenery. He reformed the administration in several ways, and the State made steady progress during his rule. He died in 1877, when his son, Rana Padam Chand, succeeded him. He was also

a successful administrator. The good work begun by his father continued under him; offices were built, several beautiful public buildings came into existence; and many temples were constructed. He had a number of rest-houses put up for travellers. The land revenue settlement was reorganised in his time. He was a popular ruler known for his piety and charitable disposition. When he died in 1898, he was succeeded by his son, Gavan Chand. As he was a minor, the State remained under the supervision of the Superintendent of the Hill States of Simla, until he attained his legal majority. Rana Gavan Chand was an able Chief, and he revised the land settlement. In honour of Sir Charles Rivaz, he had a beautiful garden laid out. During his time the State was visited by Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Minto and by Lord Kitchener, all of whom were highly pleased with the excellent behaviour of the Rana. In memory of his father, he founded a well-equipped dispensary as well as a school, with a large boarding-house attached to it. In 1910, however, to the regret of all, he took ill and died, and was succeeded by his half-brother, Rana Bhagat Chand, the present Ruler, who had borne a part in the administration of the State as a first-class Magistrate and Treasury Officer.

He was born in 1888. He received his education at the Aitchison College, Lahore, and passed the Final Diploma Examination with honours. He has travelled all over India and Burma. He is a keen sportsman and an intrepid rider. He intends going to Europe shortly. He has already undertaken many useful reforms. He is trained well in administrative work and is much interested in the improvement of the State. To commemorate the rule of Gavan Chand, he has established a dispensary at Chupahal. In all his works he has the able co-operation of the present Wazir, Thakur Sher Singh, whose services have been lent to Jubbal by the Government of India. Every assistance is given to cultivators; loans are advanced for purchasing bullocks and seed grains. Much is done to improve industries. The Chief subscribed Rs. 25,000 towards the War Fund.

The working of forests was taken by the Forest Department, instead of selling standing trees, which increased the revenue of the State by half a lakh, and thus offered good labour to the people. Forest offices were opened at Chopal. Roads were improved and three substantial iron bridges were constructed. A new palace was built at Jubbal two miles off the capital, Deora. The Rana Sahib has five brothers and five sisters. Of the former, who are reading in the Chiefs' College, one has passed the Diploma Examination. One of the latter has married the heir-apparent of the Orchha State, another, the Rajah of Keonthal, and the third, the Rajah of Arki.

The present Rana is still young and has many years of useful life before him. Under his efficient administration, there is every prospect of the State attaining a still higher level of prosperity. He has a son and heir, born on the 5th April 1913.

RAJAH BIJAI SINGH JI
RAJAH OF SHEOPUR-BARODA

The ancestors of the Chiefs of Sheopur-Baroda were Gaur Rajputs, who *had ruled over Bithur in Bhramavarta, and Bengal, for many generations.* The most prominent and successful of them was Maharajah Tilok Chand, who married the sister of Rajah Bhartari Ji of Ujjain. His son, Gopi Chand, following the example set by his maternal uncle, Rajah Bhartari Ji, renounced the world, and became an ascetic, and one of his brothers succeeded *to the gadi.* A *descendant of his,* Rajah Bachhraj Ji, went on a pilgrimage to Pushkar. On his way, he halted at Ajmir, which was under the sway of Rajah Prithvi Raj, and the neighbourhood of which was constantly raided by a notorious freebooter, Diyal Singh of Nagaur. All attempts made by the Rajah at preventing his depredations had proved vain. *But just when Rajah Bachhraj Ji, with his retinue, had broken his* journey at Ajmir, Diyal Singh besieged the city, and he was easily captured by the Gaur Chief. This act won the admiration of Rajah Prithvi Raj Ji, who gave away his daughter in marriage to Bachhraj Ji. In course of time, Prithvi Raj Ji became the ruler of Delhi and Bachhraj Ji ruler of Ajmir. Rajah Gopal Das Ji, ninth in the line of *Rajah* Bachhraj *Ji*, came under the influence of the Emperor Humayun, who gave him the command of the imperial forces in the battle of Thatta Bhakkar, in which he was victorious. The Emperor recognised his services by bestowing upon him high distinctions and the paraphernalia of royalty, such as ***mishan mahi maratib***, ***danka nishan***, ***nishan feel***, the fort of Ramthambhore, and a ***mansab*** of ***haft hazari***. It was the Emperor Shahjahan that granted a sanad to Rajah Manohar Das Ji to rule over Swi Sheopur-Baroda, consisting of 1,200 villages. At Sheopur an imperial fort is still in existence. In 1809 Rajah Radika Das Ji acknowledged the suzerainty of the Maharajah of Gwalior, when the capital of the State was *shifted* from Sheopur *to Baroda.* Rajah Balwant Singh Ji succeeded his father and ruled for many years. His son, the present popular and sympathetic Chief, Rajah Bijai Singh Ji, was installed on the ***gadi*** on the 27th September 1865 and has two Raj Kumars.

THAKUR JADUNATH SINGH
THAKUR OF KAWARDHA

Kawardha is a feudatory State in the Central Provinces. It covers an area of 798 square miles and has a population of about 60,000, with a density of seventy-two persons to a square mile. The eastern portion of the country is a plain, while the western half of it is hilly and wooded. Only a third of the area is under cultivation. Among the crops are *kodon*, wheat, rice, and cotton. The revenue is nearly two lakhs, of which the sum of Rs. 32,000 is paid as tribute to the British Government. For purposes of instruction there are about twenty schools. Medical aid is afforded in one dispensary. Kawardha, the capital of the State, is situated at a distance of fifty-four miles from the Tilda station on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. The name is said to be a corruption of *Kabirdham* or the seat of Kabir. The mahants of the Kabirpanthi clan have their head-quarters at that place. A highly decorated temple, dedicated to Bhoram Deo, built in the eleventh century, with numerous inscriptions, is located in the village of Chhapri, eleven miles to the west of Kawardha. The Zamindari estates of Boria, Bhonda, and Rengakhar are subordinate to the principality. The Chiefs of Kawardha are Rajput Gonds and are the close relations of the Zamindars of Pandaria in the Bilaspur District. It has become a custom with the family of Kawardha that in the event of the Chief having no male issue, a younger son of the Zamindar of Pandaria succeeds to the State. It was Raghuji Bhonsle that first granted the principality in recognition of military services. Thakur Rajpal Singh was the ruler of Kawardha till 1891, when the present Chief, Thakur Jadunath Singh, succeeded at the age of six. During his minority, the State was under the management of the Court of Wards. He received his education at the Rajkumar College, Raipur. He is the younger brother of the present Zamindar of Pandaria. He is a capable Chief and has many years of useful life before him.

RAJAH RUDRA PRATAP DEO
RAJAH OF BASTAR

Bastar, a feudatory State in the Central Provinces, covers an area of 13,062 square miles, and has a population of more than 300,000 spread over 2,525 villages, giving a density of twenty-three persons per square mile. Almost all the people are Gonds, who are still in a primitive and uncivilized state, with a sprinkling of Halbas. Halbi, an admixture of Hindi, Oriya, and Mahratti, is the prevailing language. Two-thirds of the country from north to south is a plateau, with an elevation of 2,000 feet above the sea-level. The Indravati, the Godavari, the Sabari, and the Tel water the tracts. There are valuable forests, yielding a large quantity of teak, timber, myrobalam, lac, wax, honey, hides, and horns. The rainfall is more than fifty inches, and the climate on the plateau is excellent. The State has varied mineral resources, as iron, mica, and gold. For administrative purposes it is divided into five tahsils, each in charge of a Tahsildar. There are seven Zamindaries subordinate to Bastar. The annual revenue exceeds three lakhs. Instruction is imparted in about sixty schools. Medical relief is afforded in six dispensaries. Jagdalpur is the capital of the State. The Rajah of Bastar comes of an ancient family of Rajputs of the lunar race. During the Mahomedan incursions, Annam Deo, the founder of the family, left Warangal, settled down at Bastar, and eventually became its Chief. He came under the influence of the Mahratta rulers in the eighteenth century. For a number of years there had been a dispute between Bastar and the Jeypore estate, in the Madras Presidency, in connection with the Kotapad tract, and it was amicably settled at the intervention of the British. Rajah Bhairam Deo, born in 1839, succeeded to the State in 1853. On his death in 1891 he was succeeded by his son, Rajah Rudra Pratap Deo, when he was six years of age. During his minority, the State was under British management. He received his education at the Rajkumar College, Raipur. He is ably assisted in the management of the principality by his Dewan, Mr. May, an officer of tried ability.

RAJAH BIJAI SAIN BAHADUR
RAJAH OF KEONTHAL

Keonthal, one of the Simla Hill States, which contains five fiefs, namely, Theog, Koti, Ghund, Madhan, and Ratesh, covers an area of 116 square miles, and has a population of about 25,000. The revenue is nearly 75,000 rupees. The principal crops are opium and grain, There is plenty of cattle in the country, and pasturage is ample. Among the exports are potatoes, opium, ginger, turmeric, and raw wool. Cloth, brass, iron, and salt are the imports. There is a small police force of about fifty officers and men. Instruction is imparted in nearly six vernacular primary schools. The court, known as *Adalat Ala*, which is presided over by the Chief, is supreme in the State. The Chiefs of Keonthal come of a very ancient Rajput family. They claim descent from Giri Sain. They were originally known as Ranas, but after the advent of the British in 1857, the hereditary distinction of *Rajah* was conferred on Rana Sansar Sain for his loyal services at the time of the Mutiny. When the Gurkha war came to a close, a portion of the tracts of Keonthal, taken away by the Gurkhas, was sold to the Maharajah of Patiala. The Rajah has since then been exempted from payment of any tribute to the British Government for the remaining portion of the territory under him. By virtue of a sanad granted to him in 1815, he exercises his sway over the five petty feudatory chiefs already alluded to, and receives tribute from them. They possess full administrative powers, but sentences of death require the confirmation of the Superintendent, Simla Hill States. In 1862 Rajah Sansar Sain was succeeded by Rajah Mohindar Sain. The latter had to discharge the heavy debt contracted by his father. He passed away in 1882, when his son, Rajah Bilbir Sain, born in 1852, succeeded to the Keonthal State in 1882. On his death in 1901, his son, Rajah Bijai Sain, was installed on the *gadi*. He holds Punnar, an isolated tract, also in perpetuity. The British Government made it over to the then Chief in 1828 as they were not disposed to extend their territories in the hills on account of the turbulent nature of its inhabitants. Further, the authorities were inclined to benefit Keonthal.

NAWAB MUHAMMAD KHURSHID ALI KHAN BAHADUR
NAWAB OF DUJANA

The Native State of Dujana in the Punjab, under the political control of the Commissioner of the Delhi Division, has an area of 100 square miles and a population of 25,000 spread over one town and thirty villages. It is a plain country studded with sand-hills, and has neither streams nor canals. Wells constitute the chief source of irrigation. Dujana and Nahar are the only two tahsils, each forming a police circle. The most important official under the Nawab is the Dewan, and next in rank to him is the Tahsildar, who is responsible for the administration of Nahar. The Durbar maintains an Anglo-vernacular middle school at Dujana, and two dispensaries, one at Dujana, and the other at Nahar. The revenue is about a lakh of rupees. Dujana town, the capital of the State, situated at a distance of thirty-seven miles west of Delhi, has 6,000 people. It was founded by a saint named Durjan Shah. It was later on occupied by a branch of Yusufzai Pathans of Jhajjar, from whom descended Abdul Samad Khan, the first Nawab of Dujana. He was originally in the service of the Peshwa. He then joined the British, and, in reward for his services to Lord Lake, he obtained grants of large estates in perpetuity. He subsequently won the distinctions of *Jalal-ud Daula Mustagil Jung* and *Nawab*. In his days, the ryots refused to acknowledge his authority, stopped paying the revenue, and annoyed him in several other ways. Eventually he surrendered the major portion of his grant, and retained what now constitutes the principality. He was succeeded in 1826 by his younger son, Muhammad Dunde Khan, who ruled till 1850. He was a very capable ruler. Nawab Hasan Ali Khan, the Chief, behaved most loyally during the Mutiny. Nawab Muhammad Saadat Ali Khan was the ruler till 1879, when he was succeeded by his son, Nawab Muhammad Mumtaz Ali Khan Bahadur, who was born in 1864. The present Chief is his cousin, Nawab Muhammad Khurshid Ali Khan Bahadur, Jalal-ud-Daula Mustagil Jung.

RAJAH SHAMSHER SINGH SAHEB BAHADUR
RAJAH OF BASHAHR

Bashahr, one of the Simla Hill States in the Punjab, occupies an area of 3,820 square miles and has a population of about 90,000. Its north-eastern sub-division, which is made up of a large portion of the valley of the Upper Sutlej, is called Kanawar, and it covers more than half the area of the principality. The Kanawaris are of a mixed race, Tibetan and Hindu. When the Gurkhas tried to bring those tracts under their control, the Kanawaris overpowered them and made them accept a tribute of Rs. 11,250. Chini, the head-quarters of Kanawar, is at a distance of about a mile from the right bank of the Sutlej, and at an elevation of 1,500 feet above the river and 9,085 feet above the sea-level. It is surrounded with vineyards, whose grapes constitute the principal article of food for the inhabitants. It was once the hill residence of Lord Dalhousie. Rampur town, the capital of the State, fringes a lofty mountain, and is noted for its fine shawls, called *chadars*. The Rajah's palace, built in the Chinese style, is situated at the north-east corner of the town. Kanethi and Delath are petty principalities feudatory to Bashahr. The former has an area of nineteen square miles, and the latter, forty-two. They pay Rs. 900 and Rs. 150 respectively as tribute. They exercise full powers, but sentences of death require the confirmation of the Superintendent, Simla Hill States. The Raja of Bashahr is a Rajput and claims descent from Shri Krishna. The State was under the influence of the Gurkhas from 1803 to 1815. When their power declined, the British confirmed the Rajah in his possessions, and granted him a sanad. The tribute, which was at first put down at Rs. 22,500, was subsequently reduced to Rs. 5,910. The present Chief, Rajah Shamsher Singh, born in 1839, succeeded to the State as a minor in 1849. After the death of his only son in 1898, his health failed considerably, and he was obliged to entrust the management to an officer appointed by the Government of India. He is bound to supply the British with troops in times of necessity, and also to provide labour for the laying of roads in the principality. The revenue is nearly a lakh of rupees.

SARDAR BHAVSINHJI RANMALSINHJI
THAKORE SAHEB OF SANAND AND KOTH

The Chiefs of Sanand and Koth and those of Gangad trace their descent from one and the same family. The first Chief of Sanand and Koth, Arjansinhji, was followed, after nine generations, by Ranmalsinhji Bhagvatsinhji, the father of the present Thakore Saheb. Ranmalsinhji Bhagvatsinhji was born on the 15th January 1870. The British Government enrolled him as a first-class Sardar of Gujarat on the 2nd November 1902. During his time he peopled with cultivators the towns of Ranmalgarh, Dharampur, Laxmipura, Keshargarh, Roopgarh, Tuppergarh, and Shihoripur, and thereby increased the population of the State and encouraged agriculture. He spent to the extent of Rs. 50,000 in repairing tanks, bunds, etc. of the principality. During the years 1901, 1902, and 1903, he remitted, in all, two lakhs of rupees to the agriculturists of Sanand, and relieved them from the effects of the terrible famine of 1900. He contributed large sums to the Talukdari Fund for the presentation of the rights of the "Vaghela Bhayat," to the Lady Dufferin Fund, and to the Sir Lely Samark Fund. He established a permanent free boarding house at Koth for the poor and helpless travellers passing through Kathiawar. In commemoration of the Coronation of His Most Gracious Majesty, King George V, he gave a *fete* to the boys and girls attending the schools at Sanand. He contributed Rs. 7,500 towards the foundation of the Gujarat College at Ahmedabad, Rs 4,000 to the Talukdari Jubilee Institute at Ahmedabad, Rs. 3,000 for the construction of the *Ellis Bridge* on the river Sabarmati at Ahmedabad, and Rs. 2,000 for the erection of the Dhandhuka Hostel for the Talukdari Kunvars He established two scholarships for them. Several other important institutions in the district also received substantial help from him. The enlightened and much respected Thakore Saheb, Ranmalsinhji Bhagvatsinghji, passed away on the 13th November 1912, leaving the succession to his only son and heir, Thakore Saheb Bhavsinhji Ranmalsinhji.

NAWAB MUZAFFAR ALI KHAN BAHÁDUR
NAWAB OF PATAUDI

The tiny State of Pataudi, under the political control of the Commissioner of the Delhi Division, in the Punjab, is situated in the midst of the British District of Gurgaon. It occupies an area of fifty-two square miles, and its population is 20,000 spread over one town and forty villages. It is a plain country devoid of irrigation facilities, and occasional floods supply water to some of the villages. Pataudi town, the capital of the State, contains 4,000 people. It is at a distance of two miles and a half from the Jatauli station on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway. It was founded in the time of Jalal-ud-din Khilji, by Pata, a Mewati, from whom it derives its name. The palace of the Nawab and the usual public offices are located in it. The Nazim, who carries on the administration of the principality, is invested with judicial powers. The Tahsildar is responsible for revenue matters, and he works under the immediate orders of the Nazim. The total revenue is about a lakh of rupees. The British Government have taken over the excise administration on lease for a yearly payment of Rs. 650. A small cavalry serving as bodyguard to the Chief, with about fifty infantry, is all the force maintained by the State. A primary school, half a dozen village schools, and a dispensary, are the only public institutions. The progenitor of the Chiefs of Pataudi comes of a saintly Afghan family, and originally resided at Samana in Patiala. One of his descendants, Talab Faiz Khan, joined the Mahratta service and received Rohtak in fief. When the English defeated Holkar in 1803, Talab Faiz Khan joined the former, and in return for services rendered, obtained from them the State of Pataudi with the title of Nawab. He was most useful to them in the siege of Bharatpur in 1826. His son, Akbar Ali, was extremely loyal to them during the Mutiny. Nawab Muhammad Mumtaz Husain Ali Khan Bahadur, born in 1874, succeeded to the State as a minor in 1878. The present Chief is Nawab Muzaffar Ali Khan Bahadur.

SARDAR AGARSINHJI RAISINHJI
THAKORE SAHEB OF GAMPH

The Chiefs of Gamph in the Ahmedabad District, Bombay Presidency, trace their descent from King Devendra, who had four sons, Aspat, Gajpat, Narpat, and Bhupat, and who was the eightieth in descent from Samb, *the son of Shri Krishna, by his wife*, Jambuvanti. Aspat embraced Mahomedanism, and Bhupat became the progenitor of the house of Jaisalmir. Narpat had a son, Samat, after whom the members of his family were called Sama-Rajputs, and from whom the present Jadejas have sprung. The descendants of Chud Chandra, son of Gajpat, are known as Chudasamas. Chud Chandra obtained the kingdom of the Chavdas, who were then rulers of Vanthali near Junagarh. Before his death in A. D. 907, he extended his power to the whole of Saurashtra. His great-grandson, Vishva, *who ruled till 940*, assumed *the title of Rah*. One of his successors, Grah Ripoo, also known as Rah Gahario, was very brave and fell in 982 in a battle with Mulraj Solanki of Patan. He was succeeded by Kumar Kawat, who *defeated the Chief of* Abu *more than once*. Rah Kawat died in 1003. His son, Mahipal, who was attacked by Durlabhsen, the Solanki Chief of Patan, and who took refuge in Junagarh, was killed treacherously in 1010. His wife fled with her minor son, Naughan, into the territory of Und, and sought protection in the house of one Ahir Dwait. The Thandar in Junagarh, appointed by Durlabhsen, tortured Ahir Dwait to produce Naughan before him. He brought his own son, Vasan, a married man, and said that the latter was Naughan. As ordered by the Thandar, Ahir Dwait, a true and faithful subject, murdered Vasan, and thus saved the life of Naughan. Aided by his tribesmen, Ahir attacked the Thandar and his party, killed all of them, and installed Naughan on the throne of Junagarh about 1025. On the death of Naughan in 1044, he was succeeded by his son, Khengar I. The next ruler, Naughan II, a very brave and handsome prince, defeated many chiefs and largely added to his kingdom. He died in 1088 leaving four sons, Bhimji,

Chhatrashal, Devgan, and Khengar II, with a legacy of four vows :—(1) to attack Patan, (2) to wash his sword in the river Mahi, (3) to kill a Bhil, and (4) to tear off the mouth of one Charan Mesan Khushalo, and expressing a wish that of the four sons only he should succeed to the Junagarh throne who would fulfil all the said vows. The first three could not do so, and their claims to the kingdom were rejected. The youngest, Khengar, fulfilled them and got the Junagarh *gadi*.

The well-known Sidhraj Jaisinh of Patan became an implacable foe of Khengar. During the former's absence, the latter attacked Patan and married the famous Ranakdevi, who had been engaged to Sidhraj. A great struggle ensued between these two powerful chiefs, and finally when reduced to despair, Sidhraj was able, through the treachery of Khengar's nephews, to enter Uperkot, the well-known fortress of Junagarh, and kill Rah Khengar. Not content with this, Sidhraj brutally killed both the sons of Rah Khengar by Ranakdevi, and the *gadi* of Junagarh was, therefore, occupied by one of his cousins, Naughan III. After him came in succession Kawat, Jaisinh, Raisinh, Mahipal, and Jaimal. In Mahipal's time, Sejakji, the progenitor of the present Gohil chiefs of Kathiawar, came from Marwar, and had the cordial support of Rao Jaimal. He gave him the giras of Shahpur, and thenceforth the Gohils began to occupy a prominent position. After three or four generations, Khengar IV succeeded to the throne, and he, after overcoming eighty-four Chiefs and capturing their sea-ports, had the well-known Somnath temple repaired. Malim Dev, the fifth descendant of this Khengar, fought a great battle with Ahmed Shah, who was thoroughly defeated.

He was succeeded by Kumar Jaisinh III, who defeated the Mahomedans in the terrible battle near Zanzmer, and Kumar Jaisinh III was succeeded by Mahipal VI, who made over the *gadi* to Mandlik III. This ruler lost the Junagarh chieftainship in a battle with Mahomed Begda, and subsequently came under the influence of the Mahomedan rulers and embraced their faith. In 1586 the Moghul Emperor, while capturing Junagarh from Khengar VII, conferred on him Chorvad and Kishod districts, and certain villages in perpetuity. The descendants of Khengar VII have assumed the surname of Rai Jada (the sons of Rah).

In 1572 Raisalji III, the fourteenth of the Chiefs after Bhimji, the eldest brother of Rah Khengar II, conquered the whole of the Dhanduka District, which was formerly part and parcel of the Junagarh State. He removed his head-quarters from Dhanduka to Gorasu, and thence to Gamph. He had eleven sons, and the eldest, Dewoji, succeeded him.

The estates of Bhadiad, Dholera, Kadipur, Ambali, Kharad, Sandhida, Pimpali, Akru, Bavliah, Kamiala, Utaria, Vadheda, Juska, Aniali, Tagdi,

Cheir, Morisa, Vagad, Zinzer, Rajka, Parabdi, Kotadia, Bhalgamada, Panchi, Hebatpur, Ankevalia, and Piperia were given by the ruling Chiefs of Gamph to the cadets of the house.

Raisinhji VI, the father of the present Thakore Saheb, succeeded to the [illegible] in 1860. He was known throughout the Bombay Presidency for [illegible]ble heart and charitable deeds. Jam Saheb Vibhaji of Jam- [illegible] Maharajah Takhatsinhji of Bhavnagar, and Thakore Saheb Raisinhji of Gamph were considered by their contemporaries to have been equally liberal and large-hearted. Thakore Saheb Raisinhji has left a lasting name by his many good and philanthropic acts. He was invested with magisterial powers, which he enjoyed till his death on the 4th April 1890, when he was succeeded by his son, the present Thakore Saheb, Agarsinhji.

He was born on the 25th September 1872. Although he assumed charge of the State at an early age, he has discharged his duties very creditably and has taken a keen interest in the welfare of his subjects, as well as in all matters of public importance. He is a life-member of the Gujarat Vernacular Society, a member of the Gujarat College Committee, of the Jubilee Institute, and of the Lely Nursing Memorial. He is also the Vice-Chairman of the Dhandhuka Hostel, which was recently started for accommodating the sons of Talukdars and Girasias, who receive their education at that place.

Although geographically separated from his brother-Chiefs of Kathiawar, he holds a respectable position among all the Chiefs and Talukdars of Gujarat, as the head of the whole of the Chudasama family, which had once owned the most powerful sovereignty in the whole of Saurashtra. The Chiefs of Gamph still maintain the traditions of their ancestors. The Thakore Saheb was elevated to the first-class Sardarship of Gujarat in 1909.

On the invitation of the Government of Bombay, the Thakore Saheb of Gamph, along with the other chiefs who are first-class Sardars, was present at the reception of Their Imperial Majesties in December 1911, when they landed in Bombay. Mr. Nurseydas Nathubhai, the talented Chief Karbhari of the States of Gamph and Gangad, also accompanied the Thakore Saheb and took part in the functions. The Chief has a son, Kumar Manharsinhji, seven years of age.

The State of Gamph has been split up to a great extent by the numerous grants of villages to the cadets of the Chief. However, at present it consists of twelve villages, with a total area of 42,665 acres. Its annual income is about sixty thousand rupees.

SARDAR JUVANSINHJI JASVATSINHJI THAKORE SAHEB OF GANGAD

The State of Gangad in the Ahmedabad District of the Bombay Presidency belongs to the Waghela Kshatriyas, who form a branch of the Solanki house. The famous King Bhuvad, who founded a kingdom in Kalyan-nagar near Kanouj, conquered Gujarat from Jeshikher of the family of the Chavdas. After the death of Bhuvad, Karan, Chandraditya, Somaditya, and Bhoovanaditya successively occupied the throne of Kalyan. The last of these, Bhoovanaditya, had three sons, Raj, Bij, and Dedak. Raj and Bij went on a pilgrimage to Gujarat, which was under the sway of Samatsinh, the last king of the house of the Chavdas. Bij married a sister of Samatsinh, and their son, Mulraj, obtained the kingdom of Gujarat from his maternal uncle. Mulraj, the first king of the house of Solanki, who ruled over Gujarat, conquered many kingdoms, built the famous Rudramal at Sidhpur, invited thousands of Brahmins from the north, gave them villages for their maintenance, and made them live in Gujarat. These Brahmins are known by the appellation of "Aouditch."

King Raj, of the Solanki family, married as his second wife the sister of Lakha Jadeja of Cutch. The result of this union was a son, named Rakayat, also called Gangamah. A battle afterwards took place between Mulraj and Lakha, in which Rakayat was killed. Rakayat had an infant son, and his Rani, leaving her baby in the temple of Vagheshvari Mata, became a *suttee*. The Mata assumed the form of a lioness and protected the little Kunwar. Mulraj happened to see this prince, and, on making enquiries, found him to be his nephew. Thereupon the infant was named Vyaghradev, after the goddess who had protected him.

When he attained his majority, he went to Benares with his uncle's permission. On his way, he married the daughter of the Thakore of Rewa, which was then known as the territory of the Bhats. As the

Thakore had no son, he gave away his kingdom to Vyaghradev, who extended its limits, and made it prosperous. He called the country "Vaghelkhand" after himself, which is still known by that name. His descendants are Vaghelas. He had five sons, Karandev, Kandhardev, Suratdev, Sohagdev, and Shyamdev. Karandev succeeded his father, and Kandhardev became the ruler of Kasota. Their descendants are still in charge of the respective estates. Of the remaining three, two settled in northern India, and Shyamdev went to Gujarat, conquered Dholka from the descendants of Mulraj, and remained there permanently.

After Mulraj, Chamud Durlabhsen and Bhimdev in their turn ascended the throne of Gujarat. Bhimdev subdued the kings of Sindh and Chedi and also Rajah Bhoj of Malwa. During his reign, Mahomed Gaznavi attacked the temple of Sorathi Somnath, and levelled it to the ground. Karan, the next ruler, overcame the Bhils, made the country prosperous, and built several temples. His successor, Siddhraj Jaisinh, a very great warrior, conquered many kingdoms, built numerous wells, tanks, and temples, and got the famous Rudramal at Sidhpur repaired. Next came Kumarpal, who was equally brave. He professed Jainism. After him, Ajepal, Bal Mulraj, and Bholo Bhimdev succeeded to the throne. The last ruler vanquished Someshvar, King of Ajmir, and Jetshi Parmar, King of Abu. He was defeated in a battle by Prithiraj, son of Someshwar. He had also to fight with Kutbuddin, Emperor of Delhi. During his time, the house of the Vaghelas became very powerful. Viradhmal was his Commander-in-Chief. He was succeeded by the weak Tribhovanpal, who ruled for a short time. During his reign, Viradhmal over-ran the whole of Gujarat, and seated his son, the brave Vishaldev, on the throne of Patan. The latter built the fortress at Dabhoi and sank many tanks. He was followed in succession by Arjundev, Sarangdev, and Karan. The kingdom of Karan was taken possession of by Allauddin, the notorious *khuni* (murderer), who annexed it to his territories. Karan had two sons, Varsang and Sarang. Varsang established his throne at Sirdhar in Kathiawar, and Sarang held sway over Bhildigarh in the Palanpur Agency. Their descendants are respectively known as "Sardhara Vaghelas" and "Bhildia Vaghelas." One of the successors of Varsang, named Lunkaranji, went to Cutch and established his *gadi* there. Another ruled over Morvada, and a descendant of his, Khanji, founded a kingdom in Tharad in the Palanpur Agency.

Damalkaran, of the line of Varsang, in accordance with his father's wishes, relinquished his right in favour of his younger brother, and became the ruler of the Parganas of Kalol and Sanand. His descendants, Varho and Jeto (Virsinh and Jethsinh), were deprived of their territories by Ahmed Shah, King of Gujarat. They carried on brigandage against Ahmed

Shah for twelve years, and tried to take away the carriages of the King's Begums from the famous Roja at Sarkhej, near Ahmedabad. But owing to the entreaties of the Begums, there was a conciliation, and the king restored their territories to them. Virsinh got Kalol and 250 villages, and Jethsinh obtained Sanand and an equal number of villages.

One of Jethsinhji's successors, Thakore Sarangdevji, who fought with the Suba of Ahmedabad, was defeated. Though he lost his territories, he carried on an incessant warfare with the Suba, till the latter was constrained to make a compromise with him, whereby the Suba rebuilt the palace of Sarangdevji at Sanand, which had been destroyed during the war.

Bhimsinhji, the son of Sarangdevji, had two sons, Karansinhji and Meloji. After the death of their father, a quarrel broke out between the brothers, and ended in a battle, in which both were killed. Arjansinhji, son of Karansinhji, established his *gadi* at Sanand, and Prithiraj, son of Meloji, at Gangad. The thirteenth of the successors of Prithiraj was Kaliansinhji. He had two sons, Jasvatsinhji and Naubha. As Jasvatsinhji died during the life-time of his father, Juvansinhji, his son, the present Thakore Saheb, succeeded to the *gadi*.

Sardar Shri Juvansinhji Jasvatsinhji was born on the 1st January 1884. As he was a posthumous son, he became the Thakore Saheb of Gangad, as heir to his grandfather, Sardar Shri Kaliansinhji. He possesses a thorough knowledge of Gujarati, and is a devoted student of English and Urdu. He takes a keen interest in education. He has two sons, of whom the heir-apparent, Kumar Shree Saheb Sinhji, is ten years old, and the younger, Khuman Sinhji, is of eight years. They are prosecuting their studies in the school at Gangad, and will shortly be sent to the Raj Kumar College. They are equally promising. The Thakore Saheb was enrolled as a first class Sardar of Gujarat on the 2nd November 1909. He manages his State with the assistance of Mr. Nurseydas Nathu Bhai, Chief Karbhari of Gamph. He was also one of the Sardars present, on the invitation of the Government, to receive Their Imperial Majesties, when they landed in Bombay in December 1911. He is a Chief known for his talents and for his admirable character.

The State of Gangad consists of fourteen villages and has six vantas in the Khalsa villages of the British Government. It covers an area of 55,700 acres, and has a population of 6098. Its annual income is about 55,000 rupees.

SARDAR NARSINHJI ISHWARSINHJI
THAKORE SAHEB OF AMOD

The Chiefs of Amod in the Broach District of the Bombay Presidency are the descendants of Raha Chand, also called Chudasama, of the Yadav family, who was the ruler of Vantholy, a village near Junagarh. One of his successors, Rah Gangave, captured Junagarh and made large additions to his dominions. After some generations came Raha Ghariaji, who defeated the King of Mevad, and made his son, Ratansangji, the ruler of that country. He then established his power over Devegad, Chanda, Hatta, Sagar, etc. After a long course of events, there was born in the family the famous Dula Rana. During his time, Alauddin Khilji, then Moghul Emperor, invaded Mevad and wrested it from him. He subsequently proceeded to Mugipore Patan in the Deccan, and married a daughter of the king of that place. While on a pilgrimage to Broach on the Narbada, he went to the rescue of a Brahmin, residing in the village of Boova, whose beautiful daughter, the Bhil King had wanted to marry by force, and, after killing the king, established a principality at Boova, which consisted of 242 villages. His grandson, Harisangji, added largely to his dominions, which extended as far as Ujjain in the east, and Navsari and Gandevi in the south. He subdued the Rajah of Rajpipla and made him pay an annual tribute of two horses, two gold armlets, five swords with shields, and five *janjals* (peculiar guns), on the Dasara day. He raised his arms against Mukhdaji Gohal, the ruler of Pirumgarh, and released him on his consenting to give him every year one horse, one armlet worth forty-five gold mohurs, seven buffaloes, and eighty saddles of broad cloth. Harisangji had seventy-two elephants in his palace. One of his successors, Singhji, established his rule at Amod in A. D. 1436, and his younger brother, Sardevji, at Dehej. The seventh in descent from him, Nagrana, who became an intimate friend of Mahomed Begda, the King of Gujarat, embraced Islamism in 1486. He and his descendants are known as Molesalam Garasias, with the title

of *Khan*, conferred on him by the Mahomedan king in perpetuity. The ruler of Amod in 1753 was Himatsinhji, a highly cultured prince. He patronised many scholars in Sanskrit and other languages. Among those encouraged by him was Kavi Jasuramji, whose treatise on politics in the Brija language is said to be very useful to Ruling Chiefs and others. He created a suburb, Himatpura, after his name, and had also eleven Sardars under him. Abhesinhji, who ruled over Amod in 1821, was a devout Mahomedan. Mountstuart Elphinstone, Governor of Bombay, in the course of his tour, halted at Sarbhon, a village in the taluka of Amod, when the Chief solicited an interview with him. The latter consented to receive him at 4 p.m., which was the usual hour for Abhesinhji to sit in prayer. He had to forego the pleasure as the time did not suit him. On another occasion also he met with a similar disappointment. Highly impressed with the piety of the ruler, the Governor granted him audience between 12 and 2 p.m. After Abhesinhji, there came four Chiefs, all of whom died young, a few years after their assumption of full powers. The last of them was Maharana Jaswantsinhji Chattarsinhji, who ruled from 1858 to 1861. Of his two sons, Fatehsinhji succeeded to the *gadi*. During the reign of his predecessors, the State became heavily involved owing to a protracted litigation, and repeated warfare. It was in the charge of a Manager for seventeen years, from 1871 to 1888, and the debts were paid off. On the 30th December 1896, the heir-apparent, Ishvarsinhji, died, leaving behind him two sons, Narsinhji and Jitsinhji. Maharana Shri Fatehsinhji, who was about seventy-seven years of age in 1901, with the object of removing all future difficulties, made over the thakorate to his grandson, the present Chief, Narsinhji, and installed him on the *gadi*. The old Thakore Saheb, who enjoyed excellent health, and who remained in retirement for well-nigh eight years, passed away in 1909.

The present Thakore Saheb, Sardar Narsinhji Ishvarsinhji, was born on the 4th April 1877. He was educated in Urdu and English in the Amod Local Board Primary School. In 1893 he married the daughter of the Thakore of Nehpad in the Kara District. For higher education in English he joined the Broach High School, where, within a year, he made rapid progress in his studies. As his eye-sight became weak, and as the doctors pronounced that the young Thakore should not strain his eyes by hard study, he gave up attending school. He improved his education under a private tutor for about three years. From 1896 to 1901 he received training in administrative matters under the guidance of his grandfather. Owing to the great famines of 1900 and 1901, the financial condition of the State was anything but satisfactory. The debt went up to more than a lakh, and the

rent of nearly a lakh and a half fell into arrears. By the prudent,economical, and efficient management of the Thakore Saheb, the whole debt has been discharged, and a remission of nearly a lakh in the rent has been made. He was greatly instrumental in making the authorities recognise the claims of the Sardars and Talukdars of Guzarat; and he helped the Government of Bombay in preparing a list of them to form a constituency under the Morley-Minto Constitutional Reform Scheme. They returned Sardar Narsinhji to represent them on the enlarged Legislative Council of Bombay. He worked hard in bringing to the notice of the Government the Broach-Jambusar Railway scheme, and finally got it sanctioned by the Secretary of State for India.

The Thakore Saheb takes a great interest in all public matters. His service in the Local and District Boards is very praiseworthy. As one-third of the inhabitants of Amod are agriculturists, and as they could not bear the burden of municipal administration, he placed the situation of affairs before the proper authorities, and relieved the town of that difficulty. He is bent upon introducing scientific methods of cultivation in his State, and, with this object in view, he has sent his Karbhari and some intelligent tenants to study the methods obtaining in other countries and also to purchase modern agricultural implements. Himself a Mahomedan Chief, he does all in his power to ameliorate the condition of the poor of his community. He has made proper arrangements for Mahomedan lads to obtain free primary education. He is a leading member of the Broach Anjumane-Islam, which has infused a new spirit into the community, by making them alive to their educational needs.

The Thakore Saheb has one son, Kunwar Jasvantsinhji, eight years of age, and four daughters. He has also a brother, Jitsinhji, who is studying at the Garasia School at Gondal. Though a Moslem by birth, he is cosmopolitan in his views, and popular with all the communities.

NAWAB GULAM JILANI
CHIEF OF WAI

The ancestor of the present Chief of Wai, who was related to the King of Bijapur, and who had succeeded in many battles in the Deccan, held under him the high office of Governor of the fort of Satara and the neighbouring country. In 166 Emperor Aurangzeb, recognizing the successful manner in which Nawab Bijli Khan Sheik Mira of Wai carried out several expeditions and political missions, granted him a sanad for a large tract of land in addition to what he had already possessed. In 1707 when Shahu, the grandson of Shivaji, on his return from Delhi, laid siege to the fort of Satara, the Nawab delivered it to him after capturing the Mahratta Commander-in-Chief, who opposed the entry of the Maharajah. In appreciation of this service the Chatrapathi (Shahu) conferred on the Nawab the Parganas of Erandol and Daryapur, and several other grants in the Deccan, with a liberal pension. The Maharajah further treated him as a relation and addressed him as "uncle." In 1818, a month before the battle of Kirkee, the Waikar Chief joined the English. Captain James Grant, on behalf of the Board of Directors, entered into a treaty with him, guaranteeing to him his possessions and his future relationship with the British Government. The present Waikar Chief, Nawab Gulam Jilani, born on the 28th July 1888, succeeded his brother, Nawab Azeemuddin Khan, in 1894. He was educated at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot, where he had a most successful career. He was declared the best boy in his class, and commanded the College Cadet Corps. He took a keen interest in all the sports and captained the College football team for over two years. He received his military training in the Imperial Cadet Corps at Dehra Dun for two years. He was invited to join the corps at the last Delhi Durbar. In July 1909, he married the sister of Major H. H. Fakhr-ud-daulah Nawab Sir Iftikhar Ali Khan Bahadur of Jaora, K. C. I. E. The Government of Bombay have recently raised him to the rank of a first-class Sardar in the Deccan. He is a popular and enlightened Chief.

HIS HIGHNESS THE AGHA KHAN
SIR AGHA SULTAN MAHOMED SHAH, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.

Perhaps the most influential member in the Mahomedan world of India, of course excluding the prominent ruling princes, is His Highness the Agha Khan Sir Agha Sultan Mahomed Shah, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., the head of the Ismailiah sect of Mussalmans. It is generally believed that he is a statesman first and a priest afterwards. He has had the benefits of a unique education and has travelled widely and observed to great purpose the several institutions of the different countries. He has, therefore, been able to utilise his rare opportunities as the religious leader of a large section of the Mahomedan subjects of His Majesty in India, to bring about a better understanding between the rulers and the ruled. He has in him the true instincts of a statesman, while his great capacity, broad culture, and extreme soundness of views have secured for his opinions a recognition and a respect not generally conceded to religious heads and theologians. He belongs to one of the most ancient Mahomedan families, in a direct line of descent from Ali, the first Imam of the Shiahs. It would appear that, at the end of the twelfth century when the great Saladin and Richard Cœur-de-Lion were fighting in Palestine over the sacred tomb at Jerusalem, the ancestors of the Agha Khan were the rulers of Egypt. After the downfall of the Egyptian power, the family lived in comparative obscurity in Eastern Iran. The grandfather of the present Agha Khan, Hasan Ali Shah, married a daughter of the Shah of Iran, who held the office of the Governor of Karman, a province which he reduced to subjection. The father of the Agha Khan, in his time, was a claimant to the throne of Persia, but he was obliged to take shelter in Bombay, where the British Government, in recognition of his services in Persia, conferred on him a pension of ten thousand rupees in perpetuity.

The present Agha Khan was born in 1875. The mother of His Highness was an accomplished Persian scholar, and she carefully trained up her son. Later on he received his English education under Mr. John Kenny at Bombay. He finished his studies by a tour round Europe. In 1886 the personal distinction of *His Highness* was conferred on him. He married

his cousin in 1897. He was most helpful to the Government of India in securing the allegiance of some of the frontier tribes by the mere force of his influence. He was made a K. C. I. E. in 1879, and a G. C. I. E. in 1902. In 1911 the University of Oxford conferred on him the degree of LL.D. At the last Delhi Durbar, His Imperial Majesty was pleased to invest His Highness with the insignia of G. C. S. I. The Agha Khan was at one time a nominated member of the Imperial Legislative Council. He has visited England several times, and many distinctions have been conferred on him by the German Emperor, the Shah of Persia, the Sultans of Turkey and Zanzibar, and other potentates. His adherents are very numerous in all the eastern countries. Among his public acts of munificence may be mentioned the Agha Khan Memorial European Scholarship Fund, founded in memory of his father with a view to enable promising Mahomedan students to go through a post-graduate course of studies in Europe.

It is in connection with the services rendered by him at the time of the Indian unrest by making use of his large influence with the Mahomedans and by disseminating among them sane views of loyalty and adherence to the British Throne, that he will be most appreciated and best remembered. Himself a man of wide culture, who has travelled extensively and observed closely, he has been able to see things in their true light being neither a visionary on the one side, nor a slavish admirer of mere power on the other. He has not been backward in pointing out errors in administration, while he has always been exhorting his followers to realize the moral greatness of British rule. He has imagination enough to see that the so-called unrest in India is but one phase of the general restlessness of the present times, and his thoughtful remarks on it, which we give below, have been taken from the *National Review* for July 1911 :—

THE first decade of the twentieth century will be memorable in history for two great movements of thought, at first sight discordant but in reality the concomitants of each other. The first of these has been a movement of discontented unrest, which, so far from being confined to a few countries, has been world-wide. The waters have been deeply moved in Europe no less than in Asia, and in Africa as markedly as in America, though of course the manifestations of discontent have differed with the varying conditions. To take but a few instances: In Servia and in Portugal the action of the malcontents was drastic and brutal. In France the unrest has been more industrial than political; the workers were enabled at least for a time to plunge Paris into darkness, to dislocate the means of communication, and more recently, to commit wanton and wholesale destruction upon the vineyards of the south. In South America, revolutions have been frequent, and often the downfall of presidents and parties has been accompanied by mutiny and civil war. When the century opened, discontent and the conflict of jarring

political aspirations in South Africa had issued in a great war, and though that unhappy chapter in history has long ago been closed and union has been achieved, the problem of the native population is far from being solved. In Egypt unrest has been persistent. Even in Great Britain repeated electoral struggles and the proposal of drastic changes in the constitution have vividly illustrated the restlessness of the age.

Again, he has not been slow to recognise the earnest efforts made by the English, American and other statesmen to bring about universal peace. He knows the important position India holds in the British Empire, and considers that the most vital administrative problem in connection with India is the education of the people :"vital, because of the future increase of her commerce; vital, because of the almost unlimited areas of cultivation within her boundaries; vital, because of her defensive strength and as a half-way house to the great self-governing States of South Africa, Australia and New Zealand." For these reasons he says that the great motto of every British and Indian statesman must be " Educate, Educate, Educate." The concluding paragraph of the article is full of pregnant suggestions :—

Never was this great conception more applicable than in this restless age. If by education the myriads of India can be taught that they are guardians and supporters of the Crown, just as are the white citizens of the Empire, then the realisation that India and the self-governing dominions stand and fall together, bound by a community of interests and a common cause to maintain, will have come. Britain and her sons will demonstrate to the world and to herself at the same time that the cement of self-interest, the amalgam of an identity of fate, compels the constituent portions of the Empire to work for the defence of all parts. It is only from the realisation of this identity of interests that Great Britain can remain the foremost of States, for by herself she has not sufficient population to defend her vast commerce and Empire. She can only retain her unique position by frankly securing the co-operation of all her dominions and dependencies in the commercial and perhaps ultimately the military contest between herself and the modern military and naval European and American States. India supplies the men, while the self-governing dominions and the Mother Country supply the energy and directing force. Hence it is imperative to give Indians the education to fit them for their future role in the British Empire.

His Highness, who presided over the annual meeting of the Moslem League, in London, in July 1913, observed that the British rule over a hundred million Mahomedans gave her a great moral asset in the beneficent and mighty part she played in the world's affairs; that it imposed great responsibilities on Indian Mahomedans as the most important Moslem section; and that the more steadfast and strong the loyalty, the more influential they would be in moulding British policy. About the id-

self-Government, the Agha Khan remarked that it must commend itself to all thoughtful men if it meant many decades of effort towards self-improvement, social reform, the diffusion of education and complete amity between the communities of India ; but if it were the fruit of mere hasty impulse, then the day which witnessed the formulation of that ideal would be very unfortunate in the country's annals. There was a long way to travel before the goal could be reached. They should proceed step by step. The development must be social, material, and moral, besides being political, and the motive force must be religious. Concerning Hindu-Moslem friendliness, His Highness said that much could be done to improve Hindu and Moslem relations through the medium of games and sports for young people.

His Highness, who arrived in Rangoon on the 6th February 1914, in the course of his reply to the address presented by the Mahomedan public of that place, referred to the gratitude of the Moslem India for the generous assistance rendered by Burma towards the Aligarh University, and said that they must realise that they should not at the first step expect a free University, such as had been evolved at Oxford and Cambridge ; but, in their own interest, he thought it would be a good thing to accept a compromise on the Government terms and gradually work towards greater freedom of the Senate and of wider educational powers over Moslem institutions. If the community met the Government terms in a spirit of goodwill, it would, in its own interests, be acting most wisely. Referring next to the Aligarh League, His Highness pointed out that the institution had more than justified its existence. The essence of the programme adopted by it was, first, unconditional and absolute loyalty, devotion and love towards the King-Emperor and Government of India ; secondly, goodwill and co-operation towards their compatriots of all religions, from the elder sister-communities of Hindus down to the smallest races and religions in India ; and thirdly, maintenance of the national existence as a separate Moslem nation, within the greater Indian nation under the British Empire. The Agha Khan exhorted them to help Government, to co-operate with Hindus, to show brotherly good-will towards all communities in order to get salvation, to have regular committees all over India, and to nip in the bud every difference as soon as it appears.

In recent years, His Highness has been the life and soul of the Mahomedan University movement. His influence has roused a good deal of enthusiasm among the Mahomedans, and it has made them realize how important the question of education is for the future of their community. On the whole, His Highness is one of the greatest moral assets of the Empire, and his influence and example will ever be a source of prestige and strength to the British rule in India.

On the 18th April 1916, His Majesty the King-Emperor sanctioned the grant to H. H. the Agha Khan of a salute of eleven guns and the rank and status of a Chief of the Bombay Presidency for life.

THE HONOURABLE MAHARAJAH SIR BHAGWATI PRASAD SINGH BAHADUR, K. C. I. E., OF BALRAMPUR

The Honourable Maharajah Sir Bhagwati Prasad Singh Bahadur, K. C. I. E., is the premier nobleman of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, owning an extensive estate of more than a thousand villages scattered through the Districts of Gonda, Bahraich, Partabgarh, and Lucknow, and covering a total area of 1,300 square miles. His taluk is one of the best administered in the whole of Northern India and has a rent-roll of nearly twenty-five lakhs per annum. Its population is about half a million.

The family belongs to the famous Janwar clan of Rajputs claiming descent from Arjuna, one of the five Pandava kings of the Mahabharata. The founder of the family was Bariar Sah, a son of Sambansi of Pawagarh in Gujarat. About the end of the fourteenth century, he distinguished himself in the service of the Delhi rulers, and got Cawnpore Mahada as a grant from the Emperor. Madho Singh, the seventh in descent, was the progenitor of the family of Balrampur. He made conquests of territories between the Rapti and the Kuana rivers. Balrampur was founded by his son, Balram Singh. The principality continued to be very powerful in these parts all through the seventeenth century, and successfully resisted the inroads and exactions of the Wazirs of Oudh. One of the most famous in the line was Rajah Newal Singh, who ruled over the State about the end of the eighteenth century. The renowned Sir Digbijai Singh, K.C.S.I., came to the *gadi* in 1836 as a young man of eighteen. All through the troublous times of the Mutiny, he remained actively and unswervingly loyal to the Paramount Power, at the risk of his own life, honour, and property, and of the lives of those near and dear to him. It must be remembered that Oudh was particularly disaffected at the time, as it was one of the provinces annexed by Lord Dalhousie in the previous year. Most of the leaders were in secret complicity with the rebel court at Lucknow, and it reflec—

the greatest credit on Rajah Digbijai Singh that, amidst such great temptations, he should have accepted the new order of things, and, alone among all the chieftains of the division, should have come to the help of the Supreme Government at such a critical time. When the Mutiny broke out in May 1857, Sir Charles Wingfield, who was then Commissioner of the Bahraich Division, singled out the Rajah of Balrampur as a chief worthy of his confidence; and when there was need for the Officer to seek protection from the insurgents, he, with thirty Europeans, repaired to Balrampur on the 10th June 1857, and met with a hearty and hospitable welcome from his friend, the Rajah. When the Mutiny gathered strength, and when it was no longer safe for the European refugees to remain at Balrampur, they were taken over to Bansi escorted by five hundred retainers led by Digbijai Singh in person. In the subsequent events of the Mutiny, timely and loyal aid was rendered by the Chief of Balrampur. In trans-Ghagra Campaign, he joined the British force under General Grant, and his service was reckoned very valuable in procuring supplies and also accurate information of the movement of the rebels. Till the last embers of the Mutiny were quenched, he remained faithful and did yeoman service to the British. This was amply and most generously recognised by the Supreme Government and also by its high officers in many a public document and by an open proclamation by Lord Canning himself. After the Mutiny, the Rajah was granted a Khillat of 7,000 rupees as well as the whole of the confiscated Pargana of Tulsipur, besides large portions of the Ikauna, Charda, and Bhingha estates in Bahraich. A remission was made of ten per cent. of the Government revenue from his ancestral property, and the revenue assessed thereon at the first regular settlement of 1871-72 was fixed in perpetuity. He was conferred the personal distinction of *Maharaja Bahadur* and made a K. C. S. I. in 1866. Further, he was exempted from attendance in Civil Courts. At the Delhi Durbar of 1877 he was accorded the rare distinction of a personal *salute of nine guns*. He was a non-official member of the Viceroy's Council and also President of the Talukdars' Association of Oudh. Until his death in 1882, he was one of the most respected Chiefs in the whole of the Province, and wielded immense influence both with the rulers and with the people. In May 1882, he died from the effects of a wound received at a tiger-shooting expedition He was succeeded by his senior Maharani, Indar Kunwar, who, in accordance with her husband's will, adopted the present Chief in October 1883. Ten years afterwards, the lapsed distinction of nine guns was revived in the case of the Maharani Sahiba, but she was not spared long to enjoy the unique honour, as she passed away on the 28th June 1893.

She was succeeded by her adopted son, the Honourable Maharajah Sir Bhagwati Prasad Singh Bahadur, K. C. I. E. The active management of the estate was entrusted to him in July 1900, and in November of the same year he received the personal distinction of *Maharajah*, which was made hereditary in 1909. He was invested with the insignia of K. C. I. E. in 1906. He holds an honoured place in the public life of the Province. He is the President of the Talukdars' Association, a Member of the Legislative Council of the United Provinces, a Life-Fellow of the Allahabad University, and Municipal Chairman and Special Magistrate of Balrampur. He is exempted from attendance in Civil Courts. He is known for his munificence and philanthropy. He has made a princely gift of three lakhs of rupees to the Canning College at Lucknow, and another three lakhs to the Medical College in that city to commemorate the visit of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, which elicited the special commendation of His Royal Highness in his gracious reply to the address presented by the Committee of the Medical College. A lakh of rupees was distributed among the poor at the time of the installation of the Maharajah; half a lakh was subscribed to the Provincial Victoria Memorial Fund; a lakh towards the All-India Victoria Memorial Fund; about a lakh to the Balrampur Hospital; thirty thousand rupees to the MacDonnell Boarding House at Allahabad; and twenty thousand towards the last Allahabad Exhibition Fund. His famine administration during 1907-08 was greatly appreciated by both the Local and Imperial Governments, the relief operations having cost him more than five lakhs. On the whole, the Maharajah closely follows his father's policy.

Both the people and the Government look upon Maharajah Sir Bhagwati Prasad Singh Bahadur, K. C. I. E., as the leader of the Indian community in the United Provinces; and all parties, official and non-official Hindu and Mahomedan, will appreciate any special honour done to this ancient house. The vast wealth of the family, its high position in society, its unlimited resources for good service, and the unique regard and respect in which it is held by all, will justify the continuance, as a permanent mark of honour to it, of the rare distinction of a salute of nine guns, which was conferred on the father of the present Maharajah, at the Delhi Durbar of 1877, and which was graciously continued in the case of his august mother. This is a point on which all seem to be keen; for at the annual session of the All-India Moslem League held at Nagpur in 1910, the President, Mr. Syed Nabi-Ullah, referred to the satisfaction it would give the Mahomedan community to revive this honour to the family in view of the fact that there was none enjoying the said distinction in the Province. It may be hoped that the Government of India will find an early opportunity

to gratify the legitimate desire of the people to honour this ancient house in this way. The following extract from a speech by Sir Antony MacDonnell (now Lord MacDonnell) on the occasion of the installation of the present Maharajah, on the 30th November 1900, giving a history of this eminent family, and the respect and confidence in which it is held by the Supreme Government, may appropriately close this sketch :—

The Balrampur Raj dates from high antiquity. It was an important chieftainship in the reign of the Emperor Jahangir, and, though never independent, it maintained with varying success its place among the chieftainships of Oudh throughout those troublous times when might was right and the only reliable title-deed was the sword. Your house has bred many soldiers: the remembrance of Raja Newal Singh is still fresh in local tradition, while his constant warfare with the Nawabs of Lucknow is still a theme of popular song. The advent of British influence in Oudh in the early part of the nineteenth century found the Chiefs of Balrampur maintaining the traditions of their House for unyielding firmness in the defence of their patrimony, and, I am bound to add, for pertinacious endeavours to deprive their neighbours of theirs. We, who see the Oudh of to-day with its peaceful fields and its industrious people,can, with difficulty, conceive what its state was eighty years ago. Coming even to more recent times, we know that Sir William Sleeman on his march through Oudh was hardly ever out of earshot of cannonades. Your father, the late Maharajah Sir Digbijai Singh, was engaged for years after his succession to the Raj in constant fighting and, as you know, he had to fly from Balrampur to escape the hostility of the Court of Oudh. ... ... In the early days of the Mutiny, some of the great Talukdars held aloof, doubtful as to what side they should join; a few joined the wrong side.But from the outset there was no standing aloof and no doubt in the mind of Sir Digbijai Singh of Balrampur. It is a matter of history how he rescued the District Officers at Secrora, and how, having sent them in safety to Gorakhpur, he faced the mutineers. This loyal behaviour so incensed the rebel Government at Lucknow that it issued a Firman dividing the Balrampur Raj between its old enemies, the Rajahs of Tulsipur and Ikauna: and at the same time directed the rebel Commander to burn down this town. Without going into details, I will sum up the result of those stormy days by saying that Tulsipur Raj and the Ikauna Raj are things of the past ; while the Balrampur Raj has waxed greater from their ruin... ... ... He was made a " Maharajah " and a " Knight Commander of the Star of India ;" while the final honour of a salute of nine guns,an honour given to very few subjects, was conferred upon him. It is in this open-handed way that the British Crown rewards the loyalty of those who stand by it in times of trial.

Rajah, you are now entering on a great heritage ; the fortunes of half-a-million of people depend upon you. Excluding the Rajah of Kapurthala, who is an independent Chief, you are the premier Talukdar of Oudh. ... ...

Your education has led you across the threshold of Western knowledge, and it has sharpened your tastes for manly sports without in any way *denationalising your feelings or beliefs.* I am glad to know that you have begun your independent life in friendship with all the influential Talukdars who are here to-day to show their regard for yourself and their respect for your family.

His Excellency the Viceroy, remembering the services which your family have rendered to the British Government, recognizing your high position, and wishing to encourage you in all ways to follow your father's footsteps, has ordered me to deliver to you this Sanad, which confers on you the title of "Maharajah" as a personal distinction.

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In presenting the Sanad to the Maharajah, which conferred on him the hereditary distinction of *Maharajah*, Sir John Hewett, the Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces, spoke as follows :—

In the speech delivered at your installation on the 30th November 1900, Lord MacDonnell announced to you that His Excellency the Viceroy had directed him to deliver to you the Sanad conferring on you the title of "Maharajah" as a personal distinction. He told you that the conferment of this honour on you as you entered public life should stimulate you to high endeavours, and should confirm you in your resolve to lead in private a blameless life and in public a beneficent one. This resolve you have firmly kept before you, and you have proved yourself a worthy successor to the late Maharajah Sir Digbijai Singh, whose statue will be unveiled at the Kaisarbagh to-morrow. The Government has done you honour by making you first of all K. C. I. E. and now by giving a Sanad making your title of "Maharajah" hereditary. I believe that you are the first Talukdar of Oudh to receive this distinction. I know that it is highly appreciated by your fellow-Talukdars, and, I believe, by all residents of Oudh, whether Hindus or Mahomedans ; and on behalf of the European Community I beg to assure you that they unite in the universal approval with which the announcement of the honour has been received. No act that I am likely to perform during my tenure of office will give me greater pleasure than to hand you this Sanad.

The Honourable Maharajah Sir Bhagwati Prasad Singh Bahadur o Balrampur, K. C. I. E., is a highly respected nobleman of the Unite Provinces of Agra and Oudh. He is well educated and does not there-fore find any difficulty in the management of his vast estates. His popu-larity with the public as well as with the high officials of the Province speaks volumes in his behalf. He is yet young and has therefore many years of useful, active, and beneficent life before him.



THE MAHARAJAH OF JEYPORE

MAHARAJAH SIR SRI VIKRAMA DEO BAHADUR, K. C. I. E., OF JEYPORE

Jeypore is an extensive Samasthanam in the Agency portion of the Vizagapatam District, Madras Presidency, covering a total area of about 12,000 square miles, with a population of about a million. It is composed of (1) Jerayati Villages, 5,209, (2) Agraharams, 170, and (3) Mokkhasas, 382.

It extends from Kalahandi (Bihar Orissa) in the north to Rekapalli (Godavari) in the south, Bastar (Central Provinces) in the west to the plains of Vizagapatam and Ganjam in the east. The country being mostly hilly, it has every kind of elevation and depression. The Savara hill-country to the north-east of Gunpur comprises two plateaus, each about 200 square miles in extent. In the centre stands Nimghiris, a remarkble group of hills rising to a height of 5,000 feet giving rise to numerous rivulets and streams which flow south-east to the sea. The hill people called Souras and Khonds number about 140,000. In religion the people are mainly Hindus and are ethnologically of Aryan, Kolarian, or Dravidian origin. The Aryans, of course, though predominant in point of influence, are necessarily fewer in number and comparatively recent colonists. The main population are aboriginal tribes, who can be controlled only by a patriarchal system of administration, the Maharajah constituting the father and protector of his people. The largest towns are Jeypore, Kotpad, Nowrangapur, Nandapur, Gudari, Gunpur, Rayaghada, Singapur, and Bissemkatak. The western portion of the country consists of the Taluks of Jeypore, Nowrangapur and Malkanagiri, while the Taluk of Koraput lies in the east. The principal towns are Jeypore, Kotpad and Nowrangapur.

In most cases the Maharajah is the absolute owner of the land, and tenants generally take their holdings in lease for a year. In the plain country, the people have mostly assimilated the habits and customs of the coast, but, in the remoter regions, lack of civilization is still noticeable. However, times are gradually changing, and it is probable that before long the fusion of the aborigines and the colonists will become complete and the tracts as a whole will

advance both in material prosperity and in civilization. In places like this, where people of different grades of civilization live, there must necessarily be great diversity in regard to religious ceremonies and social customs. But, as already observed, forces tending to uniformity in these matters are at work under the progressive administration of the present Maharajah.

Jeypore or Jeyapuram (the city of Victory), situated at an elevation of 2,000 feet above the sea level, has been the capital for more than a century and a half, the earlier chief town having been Nandapur.

The Maharajah traces his descent from the ancient kings of Kashmir and Jammu. Tradition has it that several centuries ago, a Rajah of Nandapur had an only daughter. At that time, Vinayaka Deo, the second son of Kambiraja Deo, the King of Jammu, a descendant of Kanakasena of the solar race, was on a tour of pilgrimage to Benares. He was a little discontented as he had no chance of becoming a ruler, being a younger son. Then the God, Visweswar, appeared to him in a dream and asked him to proceed to Nandapur, promising to him both sovereignty and happiness. The faithful devotee wended his way south, and, after several difficulties, reached Nandapur, where he repaired to the temple of Sarveswar and prayed to the deity for the fulfilment of the object of his mission. The very night the God appeared in a dream to the King of Nandapur and advised him to give away his only daughter in marriage to the Jammu Prince who was then staying in his temple. The king woke from his dream and at once went to the temple, where, to his great surprise, he found the Prince of upright gait and noble bearing, though travel-soiled. The latter narrated the story of his visit. The king was greatly pleased with every thing that he heard, and, taking the Prince to his palace, made him his son-in-law, and entrusted to him the government of his kingdom. Vinayaka Deo continued to rule over his country for some time, but troubles soon arose and, unable to overcome them, he repaired to his native country of Jammu. On the way he came by an unexpected God-sent help from a very rich and influential merchant named Lobinia, who placed at his disposal a large army of cavalry and infantry with 10,000 cattle for transport. With this equipment Vinayakasingh Deo returned to Nandapur, put down the turbulent elements there, and placed himself firmly on the throne. In token of his gratitude to the merchant Prince whose help was most opportune, Vinayakasingh Deo used for his signature *Chatuni* (a rope intended by the merchants for tying cattle). This mark has from that time forward been drawn by all the successive rulers. In course of time he was able to add considerably to his territories, and held sway over a kingdom from Parlakimidi to Rayavaram, north to south, and from Chicacole to Bhaskali, east to west. The country flourished under

his successors, of whom Vikrama Deo married two wives. It was at the time of marriage with the junior Ranee that he had to cede to the Parlakimidi family the country lying between Gummagudo and Kiny villages. He was succeeded in 1669 by his son, Krishna Deo, in whose short reign of four years the Zamindaries of Devupalli, Rekapalli, Naravamutta and Kottakki were formed. His successor, Viswambhara Deo, ruled from 1672-1676; and during his time the Zamindaries of Peddapadam, Ramabhadrapuram, Makkuva, Chemudu, Kurupam, Meranghi, Palemmutta, Palakonda, Birukotu, Pachipenta, Poram, Rangavalasa, Andra, Koduru, Sambara, Bondapalli, Kalahandi, Bindra Navagodo, and Kariar were constituted. Between the years 1669 and 1676, all these Zamindaries grew out of the kingdom of Jeypore. In the time of his brother who came to the throne in 1676 and ruled up to 1681 i.e., for only four years, there were troubles with Muhammadans and he succeeded in capturing some of their guns. *One of his descendants, Ramachandra Deo I,* established the Sungamvalasa Zamindari. During the reign of Viswambhara II (1713—52) the Delhi Emperor appointed Asaf Jah as Nizam of Hyderabad in 1713. The Moghul Empire at this period was on the verge of decline owing to dissensions within and the attacks of Mahrattas from without. Amidst the general confusion Asaf Jah asserted his independence and, *as an incentive to check the Mahratta inroads against his* newly acquired territory through the secret passes in the hills of Jeypore (Nandapur), made friendship with Nandapur king and conferred on him the title of "Azem Maharajah Yujadud-daula, Mahabatassar, Yedal Yemeenay Saltannat Samasamay, Khillapathi, Islam Sree Jhadkhand Badusha, Jeypore Circar." In 1752 Lala Krishna Deo came to the State, but the possession was soon afterwards claimed by his brother, Vikrama Deo, who drove out Lala Krishna Deo and made himself master of the kingdom in 1758. Had there been no family quarrel between the brothers Lala Krishna Deo, and Vikrama Deo, and had not Pedda Viziarama Razu of Vizianagaram sided unfortunately with the latter, the political status of the ancient House of Jeypore would have been on a different footing, and the Jeypore Samasthanam would, in all probability, have been at least a Feudatory State under the British Government. It was Vikrama Deo that built the Jeypore Fort and made it his capital. Before that Narayanapatam was the capital of the Jeypore kings as it was more central and better situated for the wars they had to wage with the Nabobs of Chicacole. It must not be forgotten that the original place of residence was Nandapuram, and the Jeypore kings came to be called Nandapur Bhupatis. Troubles arose with the French. At Malkangiri, the Muhammadans aided by the French were defeated and driven as far as the Godavari. Vikrama

Deo was able to hold his own against the Mahrattas, having defeated them at Omerkote. It was during his time that the allegiance of the Jeypore Samasthanam was transferred from the Nizam to the British (East India Company). When in 1777 the Chief of Bastar, expelled from his dominions by his brother, took refuge in Jeypore, Maharajah Vikarama Deo assisted the former in recovering his territories. In return the Kotpad Pargana, comprising the forts of Kotpad, Chur Chunda, Porgarh, Omerkote, and Raigarh, was ceded to Jeypore on the 6th April 1778. The Bastar Chief, however, retained his right to collect Mahadan (transit duties) at Rs. 25 for 100 bullock loads of merchandise. Maharajah Sri Ramachandra Deo II became the ruler of Jeypore in 1781. He ruled for forty-six years. During the political disturbances that followed the battle of Padmanabham (1794), the Maharajah rendered valuable services to the Honourable East India Company in promoting their Collectors' exertions in effecting a complete settlement of the country. This fact was reported to Edward Saunders Esquire, the President of the Board of Directors, by Mr. Webb, the Collector, on 14-1-1795. ". . . It is a justice I owe to Ramachandra Deo, the Rajah of Jeypore, to except him from the number of disaffected Zamindars ; he, having given the most unquestionable proofs of attachment to the Government by repairing to me in person, though he had not come down from the place where he resided, which is at a great distance, for many years before and making a proffer of his service to act against the refractory Zamindars and professing himself ready to pay his own tribute ; a conduct that appears the more meritorious at this critical juncture as, had he joined the refractory poligars, the strength of his country and the number of his troops would have thrown great weight into the opposite scale and rendered their reduction a work of considerable expense, time and difficulty, which, by the dutiful conduct he has observed, I considered to be greatly facilitated". As a reward for his service Lord Hobart granted to him permanent *cowle* in March 1795.

In 1782 hostilities broke out between Bastar and Jeypore in consequence of the latter having neglected to fulfil certain conditions of the treaty of 1778, and the Bastar forces recaptured three of the garhs, which were retaken by Jeypore forces. Again, there were troubles with the Nagpur Government on the same subject. They sent a large army under the command of Ramachandra Wagh which was completely routed at Kotpad by the Jeypore forces, and the garhs remained in possession of Jeypore ever since. Bastar was by no means pleased, and the quarrels and mutual raids and reprisals between the Bastar and Jeypore kept that part of the country in a perpetual state of anarchy for years and obliged the

latter to maintain garrisons of Oria paiks at each of the five forts. Correspondence regarding the right to the Paraganah also occurred at intervals throughout the first half of the last century between the Madras Government and the authorities at Nagpur, and the question was not finally set at rest until 1862. The Government of India ruled that it should be left to the management of Jeypore in the same manner as the rest of that zamindari and ordered in 1863 that the Jeypore Maharajah should pay 3,000 rupees per annum for it, being compensation to Bastar for cessation of the right to collect Mahadan. The amount was for many years paid with the rest of the Jeypore peishcush and remitted by the Vizagapatam Officer to the Government of the Central Provinces, and the latter paid Rs. 2,000 of it to the Baster Chief and kept the other Rs. 1,000, because in 1819 a remission of Bastar tribute to this amount had been made in consideration of the alienation of the Paraganah. The Paraganah was not included in the sanad granted to the Maharajah of Jeypore at the permanent settlement in 1803, and the Rs. 3,000 was not in any sense peishcush. Jeypore thus held the Kotpad Paraganah free of any peishcush at all. This fact was brought to notice in 1888; the sum of Rs. 3,000 was ordered to be credited to Madras and not to the revenue of the Central Provinces ; and the question as to the amount of peishcush which should be levied was raised. After considerable correspondence a provisional sanad was granted to the Maharajah in 1897, which created the Paraganah as an estate held in perpetuity upon a quit-rent liable to revision from time to time, and which provided for his paying for twenty years an annual quit-rent liable to subsequent revision, and in addition to the sum of Rs. 3,000 already paid, Rs. 13,666 or one-fifth of the total revenue demand, gradually decreasing deductions being provided for in the first ten years on account of the cost of certain semi-military paiks which had been maintained in the Paraganah and which were to be gradually done away with. The Maharajah appealed against this decision on the grounds that the Paraganah was a Feudatory State and not part of British India and so could not be assessed to quit-rent and that the arrangement of 1863 was permanent. In 1899 the Government of India overruled both pleas and directed that the quit-rent should be inclusive of and not in addition to the Rs. 3,000. A revised sanad was accordingly granted in 1900. The Maharajah, however, appealed to the Secretary of State, who, while holding that Kotpad was part of British India, ordered that the arrangement of 1863 should be adhered to. Thus only a sum of, 3,000 rupees is now paid for the Paraganah. At this period (1782) the Zamindars of Kurupam, Meranghi, Sagamvalsa, Palakonda, Viraghattam, Pachipenta, Chemudu, and Sambara, had withheld the tribute payable

to the Company and had created fituries in disregard of the Company Government, but were brought under the control of the then Collector with the assistance of the Maharajah. It may be noted in passing that when this Maharajah died in 1825, his third Maharani committed *Sati*. He was succeeded by his son, Maharajah Sri Vikrama Deo, who ruled over the Samasthanam until 1860. He put down several turbulent fituridars and helped the Government also as shown below. "(1) In 1832-33 Nagan Dhora of Golugonda and Mukhi Veerabhadrarazu of Srungavarapukota having created extraordinary disturbances in those parts, the Maharajah rendered valuable services by supplying men and other things to Government in putting down the same. (2) During the disturbances in the Gunpur and Parlakimidi Taluks in 1832-36, he not only helped the Government with men and supplies in suppression of the same but also seized and handed over to the authorities the notorious Baliyar Singh Rama Razu and three others of the latter Taluk. (3) Limmachendra Deo and Lachmandora who created great disturbances in the Gunpur Taluk of this Samasthanam and Lakkavarapukota and Srungavarapukota of Vizianagaram Samasthanam respectively were seized and made over to the authorities. (4) Ghona Niggi who created fituri and murdered the *sayer* Tanadar and others in Mahendrapur of Omerkot Taluk, was seized and handed over to the authorities. (5) Sana Tatraj of Gaiba of Parlakimidi Taluk, Ganjam District, and Sanyasibhupati of Golugonda, Vizag District, who committed considerable disturbances in those places, were seized and made over to the authorities". The administration of Civil and Criminal justice remained with the Maharajah till 1868. During the latter part of his reign family quarrels arose and consequently the country became the scene of plunder, murder, and rapine. The faction opposed to Vikrama Deo (whose avowed object was to remove him) was headed by his eldest son (a youth of thirteen, afterwards known as Ramachandra Deo III), and the latter's mother, the Patta Mahadevi, and their following, comprised the most influential muttadars of the country. Both parties agreed to abide by the decision of the Agent regarding the dispute, and in April 1849 Mr. Smollett accordingly set out for Parvatipur. He was met there by the son, who travelled with great pomp of elephants, palanquins and horses and a guard of one thousand match-lock men, while the Rajah was represented by some of his officers. A compromise suggested by the Agent was accepted by neither party, and to prevent further anarchy Mr. Smollett attached the four tanas of Gunpur Rayaghada, Naryanapalam and Alamanda. Not long afterwards he (the Agent) arranged to meet both father and son together and after wearisome and protracted negotiations, a reconciliation was effected and the attach-

ıent withdrawn. A breach, however, soon ensued, and on the 16th eptember 1849, the son seized his father and his chief servants nd confined them all in the fort at Rayaghada. They were released y a company of Sibbandi under Captain Haly, but the old man's uthority was completely gone.

In 1855 Jeypore affairs again attracted attention, the existence in the ımasthanam of the practice of *Sati* being brought to notice. Mr. Smollett ported that cases were frequent; that, moreover, owing to Vikrama Deo's ıcapacity, the country was in a state of complete anarchy; that the Rajah's ounger son had seized Gunpur; and that the only means of ensuring ecurity to life and property was to post a European Officer to eypore. Vikrama Deo was sounded regarding this suggestion, and he in eply wrote a long letter promising to stop all crime in the country, sserting his competence to rule, and earnestly deprecating the interference of Government. Meanwhile, the retainers of his two sons came) blows over the seizure of Gunpur and a severe fight occurred. ı July 1855, the Government authorised the Agent to assume the control, oth Police and Revenue, of the tracts above the ghats, the Taluks below eing managed by the Agency direct. Lord Dalhousie, however, was ıen at Ootacamund and objected, considering that the step was likely to involve the British Government in a protracted jungle and hill war, such s that of Gumsur.' Mr. Smollett protested that the two cases were in no 'ay parallel, but no further action was taken until Vikrama Deo's death ı 1860. The Agent, Mr. Fane, then revived Mr. Smollett's proposal; this 'as ultimately sanctioned, and in January 1863 Lieutenant Smith was ocated at Jeypore as Assistant Agent and Captain Galbrieth as Assistant uperintendent of Police.

Maharajah Ramachendra Deo, born in 1834, succeeded his father ı 1860, and administered the Samasthanam until 1889. In his time he 'as known to be a most loyal and charitable Prince. He rendered valuble aid to British Government in putting down the Savara rising and ampa rebellion as noted below, and his services were gratefully acknowdged by the Government of India.

"(1). The Savaras of Gunpur Taluk committed disturbances in 1862-3 and murdered the Police Inspector, constables and many people. The turidars were seized and made over to the authorities. (2) In the year 376 the people of Bastar committed great disturbances and the Mahaajah helped the Government with men, etc., in its suppression. (3) The nrest caused by the Rampa rebellion in the neighbouring Godavari gency in 1879-80 spread also to the Golugonda Agency. Captain axland who went with Jeypore Police to put it down was helped by

Jeypore Sibbandi." He also enjoyed the privilege of being presented to his late Majesty, King Edward VII, when the latter visited India as Prince of Wales in 1875. H. E. Grant Duff, Governor of Madras, went to Pottanghi and was visited by the Maharajah.

The Maharajah died in 1889, when his son, the present Maharajah, was fourteen years of age. During his minority the Samasthanam was managed by the Agent to the Governor at Vizagapatam on behalf of the Government of Madras. The young Prince was educated under an able tutor, the late Dr. Marsh M. A., LL. D., in whose company he broadened his experience and outlook by an extensive travel all over India. In one of these travels, he had the honour of interviewing Lord Elgin, the Viceroy. He visited Madras when Lord Wenlock was Governor. The Samasthanam was made over to him in November 1895. The investiture took place at the instance of Mr. Willock, I. C. S., then Agent to the Governor at Vizagapatam, when all the local European and Indian officials were present to witness the inauguration.

The Maharajah married in 1893 a Princess of the Sirguja House of Udaipur State in the Central Provinces. A son was born to him on the 17th December of that year. In 1896 the personal distinction of *Maharajah* was conferred on him, a title enjoyed by every one of his ancestors. In 1898 he visited Sir Arthur Havelock at Vizagapatam. In 1901 he visited Their Excellencies Lord Curzon and Sir Arthur Havelock at Madras. He again paid a visit to that city in 1902 and had an interview with Lord Ampthil. In December 1902 he visited Delhi for the Coronation Durbar as a guest of the Madras Government.

In January 1906, he had the privilege of being introduced to His Majesty the King-Emperor George V, when the latter visited Madras as Prince of Wales.

In the cold season of 1909 he visited their Excellencies Lord Minto and Sir Arthur Lawley at Madras.

The Maharajah is known for his liberality and generous disposition. He has contributed a lakh and a half towards the construction of a bridge over the Indravati River. He has not stinted in his contributions towards charitable institutions, such as The Victoria Memorial funds at Calcutta and Madras, putting beds in the Victoria Caste and Ghosha Hospital at Madras, Indian Famine Relief Fund, Transwal War Fund, Royal Asiatic Societies Medal Fund in England, and the Victoria Memorial Hall Redemption Fund at Madras, and one lakh to the Madras War Fund in addition to one thousand rupees a month till the end of the War.

His Imperial Majesty was pleased to confer on the Maharajah the well merited distinction of K. C. I. E. at the Delhi Durbar of 1911.

The wedding of the Kumar Maharajah of Jeypore with the eldest Maharaj Kumari of the Hon'ble Maharajah of Balrampur, K. C. I. E. was celebrated at Balrampur in February 1913 with all oriental pomp and splendour suitable to the occasion.

The Maharajah is aided in the affairs of the Samasthanam by Mr. P. Venkannah Pantulu Garu, who, after having made a name as a Revenue Officer in the British Service, of twenty-nine years' standing, joined the staff of the estate about nineteen years ago. It is gratifying to find that the Samasthanam has an efficient establishment, and the following are the officers thereof.—

DURBAR SANSKRIT PANDITS

(1) Pandit Krishnadas Garu, (2) Pandit Tata Kamasastri Garu, (3) Pandit Vedula Subrahmanyam Sastri Garu, and (4) Pandit Vidyabhushana Ramanadha Nando Garu.

FAMILY PUROHITS

(1) Ogadhu Radho, and (2) Hari Haranandha Rai Guruvu Garu.

A. D. C's.

(1) Sri Lakshmichandra Rai Garu, and (2) Sri Neelakantha Rai Garu.

Asst. A. D. C.

(1) Ramachandra Patro.

SIRDARS

(1) Durgi Patro Garu, and (2) Lokanadha Rai Jenna Garu.

KILLADAR

(1) Lakshmana Patro Garu.

SAMASTHANAM OFFICERS

Huzur Office

Dewan P. Venkannah Pantulu Garu; Pte. Secy., B. Subbarow Varma Garu; Sheristadar, M. Kamaraju Pantulu Garu; Hd. Acctt., G. V. Narayanarow Pantulu Garu; Asst. Acctt., P. Ramannah Pantulu Garu; Treasury Acctt. K. Suryanarayana Pantulu Garu; Eng. Hd. Clerk, G. Syamalarow Pantulu Garu; and Huzur Records, Hd. Record-Keeper, K. Simhagiri Patnaik.

DIVISIONAL MANAGERS

(1) B. Subbarow Varma Garu, Jeypore Division, (2) V. Lingamurty Pantulu Garu, Gunpur Division, on leave, and (3) E. Bhagirathi Row Pantulu Garu, B.A., acting.

TANA AMINS

JEYPORE DIVISION

(1) B. Suryanarayana Row Pantulu, Huzur, (2) V Venkatarow Pantulu, Koraput, (3) D. V. Suryanarayana Pantulu, Nowrangapur, (4) M. Gopalaswamy Naidu, Kotpad, (5) K. Krishnamurty Pantulu, Nandapur, (6) Radha Krishna Samantaraya Sarma, B. Singpur, (7) M.

Narsayya Naidu, Malkangiri, (8) V. Joga Row Pantulu, Omerkote, (9). K. Subrahmanyam Pantulu, Pottanghi, (10) Srikaranam Prabhakara Patnaik, Ramagiri, Gunpur Division, (11) K. Hanumantha Row Pantulu, Gunpur, (12) G. Kamesam Pantulu, in charge of Rayaghada, (13) S. C. Latchappa Pantulu, Kalyana Singpur, (14) S. P. Yetirajacharyulu, Narayanapatam, (15) M. Ramamurty Pantulu, Narsipuram, (16) B. Veerabhadra Row Pantulu, Madugula, and (17) P. Srinivasarow Pantulu, Gudari

MEDICAL ESTABLISHMENT

(1) Sri Vikramaraju Pailu Garu, (2) Sri Lobmi Maha Patro Garu, and (3) Sri Rama Krishna Das Garu.

PERSONAL GUARD KUMANDAN

(1) Mr. Rahimkhan Saheb.

STABLE ESTABLISHMENT

(1) Mr. Sama Patro, Superintendent, and (2) Dr. P. A. Ram Naidu G. M. V. C., Veterinarian.

ELEPHANT ESTABLISHMENT

(1) *Pitwas Mahanti, Superintendent.*

HUZUR GUARDS

(1) Abdul Satar Saheb, Zamadar, and (2) M. Ranganaikulu Naidu, Havildar.

FOREST ESTABLISHMENT

Mr. E. J. D. Pierce, Chief Forest Officer.

RANGE OFFICERS

(1), Ch. L. Narsimham Pantulu, Jeypore, (2) Sundaresa Iyer, Kotpad, (3) B. P. Swamy Naidu, Malkangiri, (4) A. Gounder, Nowrangapur; (5) J. Burrows, Omerkote, (6) M. Gounder, Gunpur, (7) Rangabhashyam Naidu, Gudari, (8) P. Lashmanna Chetty, Rayaghada, and (9) L. Hanumanthu lu Naidu, Alamanda.

SAW MILLS ESTABLISHMENT

Superintendent, V. Vatan Singh, Driver-in-charge.

OVERSEERS

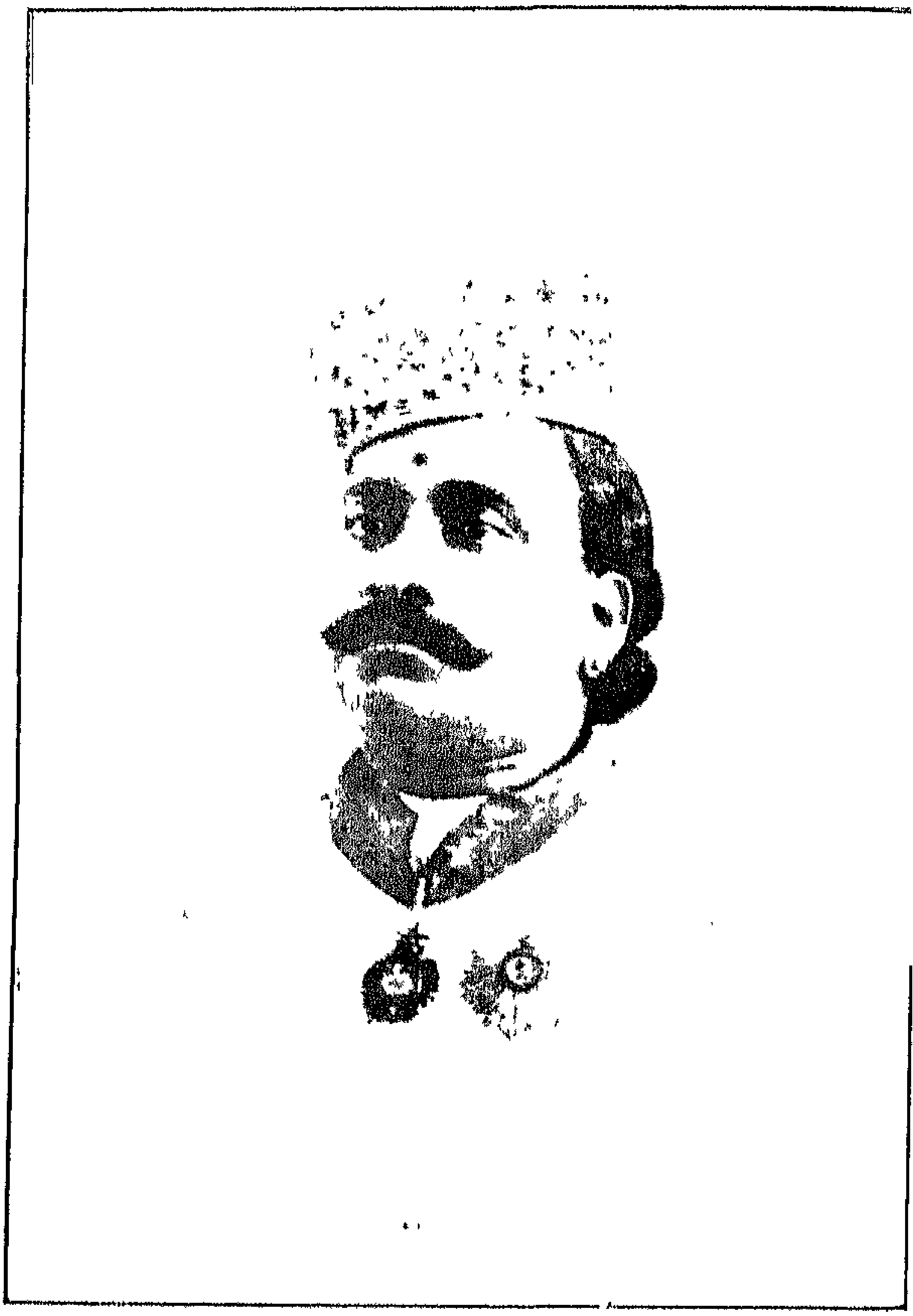
(1) P. Muthamraj Pantulu, Gunpur and Gudari, (2) K. Kameswararow Pantulu, Rayaghada and K. Singpur, and (3). L. Ramabrahmam, Madugula.

EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT

V. Bhamayya Chetty Garu, Asst. Tutor.

DEVASTHANAM ESTABLISHMENT

B. Sriramulu Patnaik Garu, Amin,



THE MAHARAJAH OF VENKATAGIRI

AHARAJAH SIR VELUGOTI SRI RAJAGOPALA KRISHNA YACHENDRA BAHADUR VARU, G. C. I. E. OF VENKATAGIRI

One of the richest, and most ancient and resourceful of the Zamindaries of South India is that of Venkatagiri in the Nellore District, covering an area of 2,200 square miles, with a rent-roll exceeding ten lakhs. The present respected head of the Samasthanam is Maharajah Sir Velugoti Sri Rajagopala Krishna Yachendra Bahadur Varu, K. C. I. E, the twenty-eighth in descent from the original founder, Bhethala Naidu Kakatheya Rajapujitha. The family had supplied for more than two centuries some of the leading Generals to the Kings of Warangal, and later on to the Emperors of Delhi. It took a prominent part in the political struggles of the eighteenth century; and, in the wars against Hyder, it espoused the cause of the English with great zeal and loyalty. It may also be noted in passing that the Rajahs of Pithapuram, Bobbili, Mylavaram, and Jatprole are all off-shoots of the Venkatagiri house, and that the present Maharajahs of Bobbili and Jatprole are the younger brothers of the Maharajah of Venkatagiri, who have been taken in adoption, and another brother, similarly adopted into the Pithapuram family, is now the present Kumara Rajah of Pithapuram. The Venkatagiri family is at the head of the whole Velama caste consisting of seventy-seven *Gothrams*.

The original founder of the family, Bhethala Naidu, was in the service of Kakatheya Rajah of Warangal, who respected him much. The second in descent, Prasaditya Naidu, was also a great source of strength to that State and was, on that account, called Kakatheya Ra jya Sthapanacharya. He made himself most useful to the royal family in successfully upholding the claims of the daughter of that king to rule over the principality after the demise of her father. The fourth in descent was Datcha Naidu, a General of very great renown under the celebrated Pratapa Rudra Maharajah of Warangal, and he distinguished himself in the wars against the Pandya kings, triumphantly leading his army into Conjeevaram and taking that great South Indian capital against enormous odds.

For these exploits he was known as the *Pancha Pandya Dala Vibhala*, or he who dispersed the forces of the five Pandyas, and *Kanchikavata Choornakara*, or he who broke to pieces the fort-gate of Conjeevaram. He also enjoyed the title of *Tirukkala Raja Stapanacharya*, or he who established the kingdom of Tirrukkalarajah ; for he was the main support of the Warangal State, during the days of that king.

The seventh in descent, Anapotha Naidu, was a prominent member of the family and was the independent ruler of Rachakonda and Devarakonda. His grandson, another Anapotha Naidu, is mentioned in connection with the wars waged against the Kondaveti country. We then pass into more historical times. The representative of the fifteenth generation was one Peddarayappa Naidu, who assisted Sher Mahomed Khan, the Mogul Deputy, in settling the Northern Circars, and who obtained the Rajam Samasthanam as reward. It was his son, Lingappa, that became the founder of the present Bobbili family. Peddarayappa Naidu carried on glorious wars against the Rajahs of Velugodu and captured their forts. The seventeenth in descent, Gani Thimma Naidu, made himself most useful to Achuta Devarayalu, the King of Vijayanagar, in his campaigns against Thimmaraju and his brothers. His son, Chennappa Naidu, also helped the King against the Mahomedans who had taken possession of Gandikota and other rock forts, and succeeded in recovering them for him. It was about this time that another member of this family, Venkatadri, defeated the Chief of the Gobbur family and took possession of his place, Kalimili, which has since been known as Venkatagiri, in honour of this victory. Kasthuri Rangappa Naidu, the nineteenth in succession, was also a valiant warrior, and earned great renown by helping the Vijayanagar King, in subduing the rebel, Thimmanna Gowdu. The next ruler, Pedda Yachama Naidu, known as Yacha Surudu, got the Permadi country as a gift from the Vijayanagar King, Veera Venkatapathi Rayalu Varu, and proved his loyalty and gratitude to the house by overcoming Jagaraya, who had deposed Chicka Rayalu, Venkatapathi's successor, and restoring the kingdom to Chicka Rayalu's son. His successor, Kumara Yachama Naidu, fought successfully against the forces of Mysore on behalf of the court at Delhi, and obtained from the Emperor rewards in the shape of *chamaras*, umbrellas, elephants, horses, jewels and swords. The next in descent, Bangaru Yachama Naidu, who lived about the end of the seventeenth century, was most serviceable in conquering the rebel Polegars at Cuddappa and Gundlur, and earned as a reward the title of *Rajah Bahadur* from the Moghul Viceroy at Hyderabad and that of *Pancha Hazar Munsubdar* from the Emperor himself. It was this Bangaru Yachama Naidu that was made to supersede Julfkhar Khan Bahadur as the head of the Arcot Subah, but before he could

do so, he was secretly assassinated at the instance of Julfkhar Khan. After the murder, his son, Sarvagna Kumara Yachama Naidu, was restored to his father's estates with the titles *Shadhazari Munsabdar and Shadhazari Savarila Mansab* (the leader of six thousand foot and six thousand horse). His vast estates covered thirteen taluks and yielded an annual income of twenty-five lakhs of rupees. His successor, Bangaru Yachama Naidu, assisted the Nizam of Hyderabad in his wars against the French and some Mahomedan rebels. The Nawab of Arcot also respected him much and interdicted the other Chiefs from using the white *nishan* of the Venkatagiri house. Kumara Yachama Naidu, who came after him, allied himself with the English and the Nawab of Arcot in the wars against Hyder, who, on that account, attacked Venkatagiri and burnt down the fort. In 1794-99 he was deputed by Lord Hobart, the Governor of Madras, to put down some refractory Polegars. It was during his time in 1802 that a permanent settlement was made between the East India Company and the Zamindari of Venkatagiri. The Maharajah of Venkatagiri was relieved of all civil and criminal administration and the military service, and a permanent peshcush was fixed instead.

Kumara Yachama Naidu, the late Maharajah, was the twenty-seventh in descent from the original founder of the family. He was known for his numerous acts of charity. It was he that established the Venkatagiri section of the Monegar Choultry at Madras. In 1878 he was made a C.S.I. when Lord Napier was Governor of Madras. In 1878 he abdicated the estate in favour of his eldest son, the present popular and talented Maharajah, and lived in retirement at Madras until his death some years ago.

Maharajah Sir Velugoti Sri Rajagopala Krishna Yachendra Bahadur Varu, K. C. I. E., born in 1857, is one of the influential and enlightened Zamindars of South India, and is a prominent figure in the public life of the country. He won the distinction of K. C. I. E. in 1888, and was for two terms a nominated member of the Madras Legislative Council. The title of Maharajah was conferred on him as a personal distinction in 1910. He is the President of the Landholders' Association in Madras, and takes a keen interest in all matters affecting the landlords and zamindars. He keeps up the traditions of the family by encouraging learning, and maintains several charitable institutions. There is a High School at Venkatagiri founded by the Samasthanam, and another at Nellore, known after the name of the family, which has been richly endowed by the Maharajah. He manages the estate very creditably and is widely known for his administrative talents.

THE HONOURABLE MAHARAJAH RANAJIT SINHA OF NASHIPUR

The Honourable Maharajah Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur, born on the 9th June 1865, comes of a distinguished family, whose ancestry may be traced back to Maharajah Tarawah, the Ruling Chief of Bijapur in the Deccan in the fourteenth century A. D. After Maharajah Tarawah, his brother, Maharawjee, was in possession of the vast zamindari. Rai Sambhunath, one of the ancestors of the present Maharajah, was appointed by the Emperor of Delhi as Subahdar and Nazim of the whole tract from Shaharanpur to Meerut, and his brother, Rai Badrinath, took part in the battle of Shamly, under Col. Burn. But the credit of founding the Nashipur Raj belonged to Maharajah Devi Sinha Bahadur, whose father, Rai Dewah Sinha, came in the beginning of the eighteenth century from Panipat to Murshidabad, then the capital of Bengal. Devi Sinha entered the service of the Honourable East India Company in the revenue department, in which he held a high and responsible office in connection with the permanent settlement of Bengal. He formed the revenues of Purneah, and of the Districts of Rungpur, Dinajpur, and Edrakpur, and became in 1773, Steward or Secretary to the Provincial Council of Murshidabad. For the important services he had rendered to Lord Clive at the battle of Plassey, he was honored with the title of *Maharajah Bahadur*. One of his successors, Rajah Udmunt Sinha Bahadur, was famous for his charities, and it was he that constructed the grand picturesque Thakoor bari.

Maharajah Ranajit Sinha's father, Rajah Kirti Chandra Sinha Bahadur, died when his son was very young, and his vast estate was taken under the management of the Court of Wards. The minor nobleman received his early education at the Berhampore College, Bengal, where he had a very distinguished career, and his forte was mathematics, in which he made considerable progress and in which he even now takes special interest. From his boyhood, he was remarkable for his punctuality and steady habits, and his high intelligence attracted the notice of his teachers and professors, all

of whom were of opinion that this youth had a distinguished future before him. On attaining his majority in 1886, he directed his attention to the management of his estate and established it on a firm and solid basis. By improving the condition of his tenants, he has acquired the reputation of a model Zamindar. Unlike other landholders, he does not entrust the management of his estate to his subordinates, and the rules framed by him for their guidance, having proved very useful, have been copied by many of the other leading Zamindars of Bengal.

The chief characteristic of the Maharajah is his versatile genius, by which he imparts fresh life to everything he puts his hand to. He is very punctual in the discharge of his duties. He attends office regularly from 11 A.M. to 5 P.M. every day. During the cold weather he goes on tour to the mofussil, and obtains first-hand information, which enables him to enter into the details of his zamindari affairs with a precision and knowledge which are indeed admirable.

The Maharajah's public career began in 1887 when he was apppointed an Honorary Magistrate of the Lalbaugh Independent Bench. In 1888 he was elected Chairman of the Murshidabad Municipality, and during his incumbency, he introduced many sanitary reforms, which made him highly popular and earned for him the good opinion of the local authorities. In the following year, Murshidabad suffered heavily from inundation, and many families were reduced to starvation and ruin, their houses having been washed away by the flood. But the Maharajah, a young man then, saved, at great personal risk, the lives and houses of many. This benevolent and heroic act was warmly appreciated by Sir Stuart Bailey, then Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. On the 1st January 1891, he won the distinction of *Rajah*, and Sir Charles Elliot, presenting the sanad, said :—

It is a very great pleasure to me to convey to you the sanad of the title of *Rajah*, which the Viceroy has been pleased to confer upon you. The title is one which had been honourably borne by your family for many generations, and it is now committed to you to hold untarnished. One of your ancestors, Raja Devi Sinha, rendered very valuable services to Clive at Plassey, and the continued favour in which your family has been held and the honour which is to-day entrusted to you, is a proof that the Government of India is never slow to recognise, and never forgets, services rendered to it by the houses in this country. You have lately attained your majority and succeeded to your property. I trust you will manage your estate in a manner worthy of your ancestry, and that your career may compare favourably with that of other Zamindars in the Province, and that it will be so distinguished that further honours will be conferred upon you, not on account of the good work of those who have gone before you, but as a reward for your own merit and exertions.

In 1894 he was invested with the powers of a Magistrate of the second class and empowered to sit singly. In this honorary duty he displayed so much zeal and ability that the Government, in appreciation of his services, made him a Magistrate of the first class on the 1st March 1897, with powers to take cognizance of offences on complaints and police reports. At this time he was placed in entire charge of the Lalbaugh Bench, and virtually discharged the duties of a Sub-Divisional Officer after the abolition of the Lalbaugh Sub-Division. In 1899 and in 1903, he was re-elected Chairman of the Murshidabad Municipality, in which capacity he was at the helm of its administration for about ten years. He was created a *Rajah Bahadur* in 1897 and, when the title was conferred upon him, Sir Charles Stephens observed :—

Rajah, you are a scion of a very ancient and respectable family and the proprietor of extensive zamindaries, and have conducted yourself in a manner worthy of your origin and of your rank and responsibilities; you have the reputation of being a good and liberal landlord to your own ryots; but your desire to do good service to the public has led you to enter a more extended sphere of usefulness. As a Municipal Commissioner and an Honorary Magistrate, you have rendered great assistance to the local authorities. It has been deemed just and proper that you should be raised to the dignity which your father enjoyed. You have, therefore, been created a "Rajah Bahadur," and it gives me great satisfaction to hand you the sanad and the Khilat which mark your elevation to that rank.

In recognition of the manifold services of public utility rendered by Rajah Ranajit Sinha Bahadur, the Government of India made him a *Maharajah* on the 1st January 1910. On the occasion of the presentation of the sanad and Khilat to him, Sir Edward Norman Baker, K. C. S. I., spoke as follows:—

The family, of which you are the head, is both old and distinguished; and one member of it enjoyed the title of Maharajah as long ago as the year 1800, more than a century ago. Twice already you yourself have received marks of the favour of Government, once in 1892 and again in 1897; and it gives me peculiar pleasure now to hand you the sanad of the still higher title of *Maharajah*, together with the Khilat which accompanies it.

The honorable distinction you have worthily earned, not merely by service in a variety of public offices, as Chairman of the Murshidabad Municipality, as an Honorary Magistrate, as Member of the Legislative Council and the like, but still more by the loyal and devoted spirit which you have invariably displayed in times of difficulty and temptation, and by the influence which you have uniformly exerted to counteract the evil forces of sedition and to further the cause of law, order, and good government. I am hopeful that the influence will be further strengthened by the honorable preferment which you have now received, and which I earnestly hope you will live long to enjoy.

The Maharajah was nominated a member of the Bengal Legislative Council in 1899. His speech on the amendment of the Municipal Bill was so masterly that it made him highly popular among his countrymen, and his name became a household word in every cultured family in Bengal. The Government too recognized in him an excellent Counsellor. He was elected a member of the Imperial Legislative Council in 1912.

The superb mansion at Nashipur, in which the Maharajah generally resides with his family, is a palatial building, after the pattern of the Government House at Calcutta. The Maharajah is always a kind patron and benefactor to his subjects, for whom he has sunk wells, founded schools, and established a dispensary, called "The Nashipur Raj Charitable Dispensary." The inhabitants of Nashipur are particularly grateful to him for the manifold acts of kindness which they at all times have received at his hands. There is no public institution in Bengal with which his name is not associated; and his charities are almost unbounded, many thousands of rupees being systematically spent on them every year.

Noted for its staunch loyalty, the Nashipur Raj family has always been treated by Government with special honour, and it indeed reflects great credit upon the Maharaja that, when the atmosphere of the country was surcharged with seditious discontent, he remained firmly loyal to the British, and never allowed his own men to be guided by the empty vituperations of the extreme anarchists. His keen insight helped him to understand the political situation of the country rightly, and, to induce his countrymen to take an impartial view of it, he published an appeal to them, both in English and in Bengali, urging them to show sincere loyalty to the Government and at the same time to represent their legitimate aspirations respectfully. He was the first among the native princes and noblemen to respond to the call of the authorities for the suppression of anarchism in India.

In his private life the Maharajah is a Hindu of the best type, and although moderate in his views, he is orthodox in all social and religious observances. He is endowed with an amiable disposition, and is uniformly courteous to all. He has a family of five sons and four daughters. The eldest, Maharajkumar Bhupendra Narayan Sinha, is highly intelligent and helps his father in many important works of the Raj. He has passed the Intermediate Arts Examination of the Calcutta University in the first Division, and is now studying for the B. A. Examination. The second, Maharajkumar, Nripendra Narayan Sinha, is well-behaved and sensible, and has passed the Matriculation Examination of the Calcutta University.

MAHARAJAH GIRIJA NATH ROY BAHADUR OF DINAJPUR

Maharajah Girija Nath Roy Bahadur of Dinajpur represents an eminent and highly respected family in Bengal, founded by the well-known Rajah Gonesh in the middle of the fourteenth century. His ancestors exercised vast powers at one time as rulers of extensive tracts. Their deeds of valour against the neighbouring Pathan Chiefs form the subject of many a folk-tale and popular ballad still current in those parts of the country. They finally came under the suzerainty of the Imperial Court at Delhi. Srimanta Dutt Choudhury, the Chief of Dinajpur, in the sixteenth century, was a contemporary of the Great Akbar, and his daughter was married to Hari Ram Ghose, Dewan to the ruler of Idrakpur. Harischandra, the son of Srimanta, having died without issue, the country passed into the hands of his nephew (sister's son), Rajah Sookdeb Roy, in the middle of the seventeenth century. The tracts then consisted of ninety-three parganas. Sookdeb Roy passed away in 1681. His three sons, Ramdeb, Joydeb, and Pran Nath, ruled in succession. Pran Nath Roy, who came to the *gadi* in 1687, was granted the title of *Maharajah Bahadur* by the Imperial Court of Delhi. The State also received vast additions in his time. On his death in 1719, Maharajah Ram Nath Roy Bahadur, his adopted son, became the Chief. He was by far the most powerful of the Dinajpur rulers, his estate extending over 126 parganas. He continued to govern with great power and influence until 1760, when his adopted son, Maharajah Boidya Nath Roy Bahadur, succeeded him. During his days a large portion of the State was alienated by the creation of Brahmattar tenure and other endowments. He died in 1780, when his widow, Maharani Saraswati, adopted Maharajah Radha Nath Roy Bahadur. It is interesting to note that the sanad from Shah Alam confirming the adoption was countersigned by the Governor-General, Warren Hastings, for a succession fee of 730 gold mohurs. Radha Nath, in turn, was succeeded in 1801 by his adopted son, Govinda Nath, who continued to be in charge of the zamindari till 1841, when his son, Tarak Nath, came to the *gadi*, and was ruler till 1865. His widow, Maharani

Syammohini, adopted the present Maharajah, Girija Nath Roy Bahadur, who was then a little over four years of age.

During his minority the estates were ably administered by his mother, who also looked after his education at the Queen's College, Benares. She was well known for her charitable disposition, and the personal title of *Maharani* was conferred on her in 1875 for her eminent services in connection with the great famine of 1873. It was also then that her son-in-law, Khettra Mohan Sinha, was given the title of *Rajah* by Lord Lytton for the valuable services rendered to her in managing the Dinajpur estate. After the completion of his education under specially selected and able tutors, Girija Nath Roy Bahadur was placed in charge of his vast possessions. His management of them reflects the greatest credit on him, and he is one of the most respected zamindars of Bengal. For six years he was the Chairman of the Dinajpur Municipality. He serves on the District Board, and is also an Honorary Magistrate. He did good service as a nominated member of the Legislative Council, where his ripe knowledge and wide experience secured for him a respectful hearing. He has been prominently connected with every public movement of his time, and his purse and time and labour are always at the disposal of any beneficent cause. His benefactions are many: the Diamond Jubilee School, the weaving school, the Sanskrit tol, and two free dispensaries, all of which owe their existence to his generosity. At his expense the Ghagra Canal and the Thomson Canal, which have greatly improved the sanitation of Dinajpur, were constructed. In 1907 the personal distinction of *Maharajah Bahadur* was bestowed on him, when the Lieutenant-Governor in presenting him with the Sanad, spoke of him as follows :—

> By your unswerving loyalty, high character, readiness to give your time and labour to promote all useful public objects, you have gained the high esteem of your countrymen and the grateful recognition of the Government. It is very gratifying to me to be able to express, by the ceremony of to-day, the satisfaction with which the Government has viewed your career.

The Maharajah who presided over the All-India Kayastha Conference, held at Allahabad on the 13th April 1914, in the course of his speech deplored the absence of proper moral and religious training which were mainly responsible for the spread of an ill-disciplined spirit and occasional outbreaks of political crimes. He outlined the conditions which have caused the decadence of the community and the steps to be taken to raise them. The dowry question was also referred to and the community was exhorted to remove this crying evil.

Maharajah Girija Nath Roy Bahadur is one of the most popular Zamindars of Bengal, and by his age, experience, and wide knowledge of the world as well as by his large sympathies, has contributed much to the true progress of his country.

MAHARAJAH RAM RANJAN CHAKRAVARTY BAHADUR OF HETAMPORE

Maharajah Ram Ranjan Chakravarty Bahadur of Hetampore, the biggest landholder in the District of Birbhum, Bengal, represents a well-known ancient Brahmin Zamindar family. As his estates extend over a very large area from Birbhum to Deoghur, he is considered the premier Zamindar in the Santhal Parganas too.

The progenitor of the family was Muralidhar Chakravarti, who had left his native land Bankura for Birbhum about 1650 A. D., and taken service under Rajah Bahadur Khan of Rajnagar. He was succeeded by his son, Chaitanya Charan, born in 1698. The latter became an eminent musician, and was much favoured by the Pathan Chiefs. He afterwards removed to Hetampore at the request of Hafez Khan, the officer in charge of the Hetampore fort, under the Rajah of Rajnagar. Of his four sons, Radhanath rose to be the second prominent man in the Birbhum district, during the Mahomedan rule. When the downfall of the Mahomedan Rajahs of Birbhum commenced, he was the first to buy Kundahit, a zamindari of the Birbhum Raj, which was put to auction by the East India Company for arrears of revenue. In his life-time he did many acts of charity and public utility. He died in 1825, leaving two sons, Bipracharn and Ganganarayan. Ganganarayan died young, and Bipracharn, who succeeded to the zamindari, doubled its extent by his tact and skilful management. During the Santhal insurrection, he helped the British in various ways and was able to quell the disturbance within his estate; and his services were much appreciated by the Government of India. He had a big tank sunk called Gobinda Sayer, the largest reservoir in the village, and built a magnificent house and dedicated it to the goddess Sarasvati, which now serves as the College building. He died in 1857 leaving his son, Krishna Chandra, born in 1826, as his successor. The latter was very popular as his charity and munificence were proverbial, but passed away in his prime of life in 1859.

His son, Maharajah Ram Ranjan Chakravarty Bahadur, who succeeded to the estate, was scarcely eight years old when his father died. During his minority the zamindari was taken under the management of the Court of Wards, and he was educated at first in the Calcutta Wards' Institution under the supervision of Rajah Rajendra Lal Mitra, and later in the Wards' Institution at Benares. On attaining his majority in 1869, he assumed charge of the Raj. His uniform kindness and exemplary character, added to a religious nature, have won many friends and admirers. All the Government officials, with whom he has come in contact, have known him to be an upright and generous zamindar. He grants ready redress to the grievances of his tenants and thus secures their goodwill and confidence. During the great famine of 1874, he gave them large remissions and helped them in several other ways. The Government of Lord Northbrook placed on record its appreciation of Ram Ranjan Chakravarty's liberality, and conferred on him the title of *Rajah*. Three years later, he won the distinction of *Bahadur*. To commemorate the glorious reign of King-Emperor Edward VII, the Rajah Bahadur spent nearly fifteen thousand rupees in his estates. On the occasion of the last Delhi Durbar, he was generous enough to place half a lakh at the disposal of Her Most Gracious Majesty for any beneficent scheme of her choice. He was present at the Delhi Durbar of 1903 ; but he could not attend that of 1911, owing to ill-health, which prevented him from undertaking the long journey. Among the conferees of the Birthday Honours of June 1912, he obtained the well-merited title of *Maharajah*. He has established a Hig hSchool at Hetampore; he maintains free dispensaries of the Allopathic, Homeopathic and Ayurvedic systems, and patronizes a Sanskrit *tol*. He has built two temples, one for Siva and the other for Rashbehary Jiw at Benares and Brindabhan, where many poor folk are daily fed. His enlightened and noble-hearted wife, Rani Padmasundari Debi, passed away in 1906, deeply mourned by her tenants. She had dedicated a temple to Gauranga Mahapravu, and endowed it with a large property, from the income of which distressed people are fed daily. A second-grade College, affiliated to the Calcutta University, received at her hands a liberal endowment and a munificent gift. Loyalty is the characteristic feature of the family of the Maharajah Bahadur. It was conspicuous in Bipracharan during the Santhal insurrection, when swadeshi riots broke out in many places. He put down all lawlessness with a stern hand throughout his zamindari and saw that his tenants and the students of the High School and the College in the estate steered clear of the political movements of the time.

The sons of Maharajah Ram Ranjan Chakravarty Bahadur are Maharaj Kumars Nityaniranjan, Satyaniranjan, Mahimaniranjan, Sadaniranjan, and Kamalaniranjan. They are all kind, noble, and popular.

MAHARAJAH SIR KISHEN PERSHAD BAHADUR, G. C. I. E., RETIRED PRIME MINISTER OF HYDERABAD

The illustrious subject of this memoir, Maharajah Sir Kishen Pershad Bahadur, G.C.I.E., retired Prime Minister of Hyderabad, traces his descent from an ancient family at Delhi, a member of which had accompanied one of the early Nizams to Hyderabad. He and several of his successors served the Nizams holding humble offices. The last of them who rose to prominence was Rajah Chandu Lal, born in 1766. He commenced service in the Customs and Excise Departments, and later worked under Azim-ul-Umara and Mir Alam. When the latter became Prime Minister in 1804, Rajah Chandu Lal held the most responsible position of Confidential Assistant. After two years, he was appointed Peshkar or Deputy, and Finance Minister, a post which subsequently became hereditary in the family. In 1908 Mir Alam passed away, and Rajah Chandu Lal was elevated to the Ministry. He was an officer of remarkable talents, with an extraordinarily retentive memory and indefatigable energy, and was conversant with the most minute details of every branch of the service. He resigned his office in 1843, when his nephew, Rajah Ram Buksh, succeeded him. After him came Maharajah Naraindar Pershad, the paternal grandfather of Maharajah Kishen Pershad. Maharajah Naraindar Pershad was a member of the Council of Regency during the minority of the late Nizam.

Maharajah Kishen Pershad was born on the 28th January 1864, and is now in the prime of his life. As stated above he is a descendant of an aristocratic and illustrious family, which produced, during the halcyon days of Hyderabad, men remarkable for great integrity, sterling honesty, and extreme piety. Maharajah Naraindar Pershad gave his grandson an excellent training in his younger days, and he pursued his studies, with assiduity and intelligence, in Arabic and Persian under tutors of exceptional abilities. Even as a boy he gave proof of his proficiency in those languages. He attended the Madrassa-i-Alia, that is, the school for the children of the noblemen at Hyderabad, and studied English. He next learned Telugu and Mahratti. As a student, he showed a great

aptitude for learning poetry in Persian and Urdu, and in course of time he was able to compose verses himself. Even as a prose writer he acquired the reputation of producing works with singular ease, lucidity, and charm. His poems were excellent in matter and form. Besides publishing several books and pamphlets, he edited two journals, one entitled *Dub Duba-i-Asafi*, and the other *Maboob-ul-Kalam* in verse. Be it said to his credit that His late Highness the Nizam Mir Mahbub Ali Khan Bahadur, who was well known for his scholarship in Persian, was a regular contributor to the latter journal. The verses composed by the young nobleman were submitted to the Nizam for approval, before they were put in print; and this act won for the former the distinction of *Shegird-i-Khas-Asaf-Jah* (the special pupil of His Highness), an honour seldom conferred by the Nizams of Hyderabad on their subjects, and great value was, therefore, attached to it.

In 1892 the hereditary post of Peshkar was conferred on Rajah Kishen Pershad by H. H. the late Nizam, with the title *Rajayan-i-Rajah Maharajah Bahadur*, which his forefathers had enjoyed. The jaghirs of his maternal grandfather descended to Maharajah Kishen Pershad, and they yield him annually several lakhs of rupees. As one of the senior nobles of the State, he exercises full civil and criminal powers over his tenants. In 1882, during the absence of Nawab Sir Vikar-ul-Umara Bahadur from the State, Maharajah Kishen Pershad acted as Prime Minister for nearly a month. From 1893 to 1901, he did ample justice to the dual functions of Peshkar and Military Minister. On the retirement of Sir Vikar-ul-Umara Bahadur in 1901, Maharajah Kishen Pershad Bahadur was appointed Prime Minister, with the title *Yamin-us-Sultanat*. In 1903 he obtained the distinction of K. C. I. E., and seven years later, he was created a G. C. I. E. After the death of H. H. the Nizam Mir Mahbub Ali Khan Bahadur, H. E. the Viceroy Lord Hardinge, was present at Hyderabad to invest the present Nizam with administrative powers. Before leaving that city, His Excellency addressed the following letter to Maharajah Sir Kishen Pershad :—

You have had heavy responsibilities here in the past, and it rejoices me to think that you won and retained the confidence of His late Highness. I feel assured that you will be equally successful with His Highness the present Nizam, and I earnestly wish you all success in your efforts to guide and advise him in the best interests of the State in the many and difficult problems that await solution.

Maharajah Sir Kishen Pershad Bahadur, G.C.I.E., retired from his office of Prime Minister on the 11th July 1912, but continues to work as Peshkar. There are no two opinions about his success in the highest office held by him under H. H. the late Nizam and the present ruler.

THE HONOURABLE MAHARAJAH SIR RAMESHWARA SINGH BAHADUR, G. C. I. E. OF DARBHANGA

The subject of this sketch, the Honourable Maharajah Sir Rameshwara Singh Bahadur, K. C. I. E., was born on the 16th January 1860, at Darbhanga. He comes of an ancient and high Mithila Brahmin family of great vedic repute. He is the youngest of the three sons of Maharajah Maheshwara Singh Bahadur, the eldest of whom had died in his father's life-time, and the second was the late Maharajah Sir Lakshmeshwara Singh, G.C.I.E. During their minority, the Raj was placed under the management of the Court of Wards. They were educated at Darbhanga, at Muzaffarpore, and at Queen's College, Benares, after having been for sometime under the private tuition of an eminent educationist, Mr. Chester Macnaughten. As a student, the Maharajah showed rare intelligence and capacity, and gave promise of future greatness.

The Darbhanga Raj is an ancient and impartible one, granted in the sixteenth century to Shriman Mahesh Thakur with the title of Rajah, for his great learning, piety, and high character, by Akbar, the greatest of the Moghul Emperors. The conditions imposed on the Rajahs of Darbhanga for the continuance of their possessions were that they should rule justly, relieve the distressed, and try to ameliorate the peasantry. All these injunctions have been faithfully carried out from generation to generation. The Darbhanga Raj, at one time, was so very extensive that it occupied the area between the Ganges and the Kosi, consisting of the Districts of Muzaffarpore, Darbhanga, and Champaran; but the former Rajahs were generous enough to give away a large portion of the estate to other Zamindars.

When his elder brother succeeded to the *gadi*, the present Maharajah built a palace at Rajnagar and lived there. With a view to being trained in public duties, he accepted in 1878, under Lord Lytton, an appointment in the Statutory Civil Service and acted in the capacity of an Assistant and also Joint Magistrate in Darbhanga, Chapra, and Bhagalpore. His judgments, replete with high legal lore, were considered sound and able,



THE MAHARAJAH OF DARBHANGA

and his administration of justice gave entire satisfaction to the litigious public and to the Government. He was appointed in 1885 a member of the Bengal Legislative Council. He resigned Government service in the same year and turned his attention to the management of his own estates with the result that marked improvements were effected everywhere under his efficient control. In recognition of his brilliant career as a public officer, and as an estate manager, the title of *Rajah Bahadur* was conferred upon him on the 27th May 1886, with the special privilege of exemption from attendance in civil courts.

On the death of his elder brother in December 1893, he was installed on the *gadi*, when the personal distinction of *Maharajah Bahadur* was conferred upon him. He was returned to the Supreme Legislative Council as a representative of the non-official members of the Bengal Legislative Council in the place of his deceased brother, which honour was repeated four times. He was awarded the *Kaisar-i-Hind* Gold Medal in 1900. Of the two Indian Members of the Police Commission that sat in 1902, he had the honour of being one and travelled all over India, and his work was well appreciated. He was created a K. C. I. E. in 1902, and the hereditary title of *Maharajah Bahadur* was conferred upon him in 1907. He is the President of the British Indian Association, Calcutta, the Life-President of the Bharata Dharma Mahamandal and of many other associations including the All-India Religious Association of Hindus. Under his capable guidance, the Mahamandal has made considerable progress, has secured large funds, owns a big house at Benares, publishes magazines in different languages, and does very useful work in diffusing religious knowledge. He is a member of the India Famine Trust. He is the sole trustee of the Calcutta Mahakali Pathasala, the first institution in Bengal to impart religious education to girls on national lines, and towards its upkeep the Darbhanga Raj has been liberally contributing from the very commencement. The services rendered by the Maharajah Bahadur as President of the Reception Committee on the occasion of the visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales to Calcutta in 1906 were very praiseworthy; and he was generous enough to place at their disposal the munificent sum of a lakh of rupees to commemorate the event in a suitable manner. Their Royal Highnesses were pleased to give it away to the Medical College Hospital, and to the Lady Dufferin Hospital Fund.

Soon after the atrocities committed by Khudiram at Muzaffarpore, in 1910, the Maharajah repaired to the scene of their occurrence, and, with all the emphasis at his command, denounced the abominable deed, at the risk of his own life, and started the Hindu Association with a view to sweep

away all indications of anarchy and sedition, to foster loyalty to Government, to advance Hindu interests in a loyal manner, and to promote amity and goodwill between Hindus and other communities. The Behar Hindu Association, of which he was President, convened a grand public meeting of the Hindus of Behar, at Muzaffarpore, condemned most vehemently the prevailing tendency to anarchy and sedition, and set on foot a Loyal League under his guidance to prevent the spread of disaffection in Behar. The All-India Hindu Association and the Punjab Hindu Sabha owe their existence to him. In pursuance of the suggestion of the Maharajah Bahadur, H. H. the Agha Khan held the Hindu-Mahomedan Conference in 1910, at Allahabad instead of at Bombay, as had been originally arranged. The Maharajah Bahadur took an active part in it, and thus enhanced its success.

He is the founder and principal Director of the Bengal National Bank at Calcutta. He is keenly interested in the Panchayat System, and is the President of the Behar Panchayat Association. In recognition of his princely donation of two and a half lakhs of rupees to the Calcutta University, part of which has been utilised in the construction of a fine library, called "the Darbhanga House," he was made an ordinary Fellow of the Calcutta University. He has established an English High School, and a *Girls' School at Darbhanga*; a *Sanskrit College* in that city, and one at Benares, and eight vernacular middle schools in various parts of his estate. His handsome monthly subscription of Rs. 500 to the Muzaffarpore B. B. College at a most critical period of its history saved it from being reduced to a second-grade College. He is the President of the Calcutta Sangita Samaj as well as of many other philanthropic associations scattered throughout India, all of which are receiving his liberal patronage. He maintains a large General Hospital and a Lady Dufferin Hospital at Darbhanga, and one hospital and nine dispensaries scattered over his estate. He has an excellent stud, which is taken care of by two European Veterinary Surgeons.

He is the leader of the Maithil Brahmins, over whom he wields undisputed power, and is the final appellate authority in all caste disputes. He is an excellent scholar in English, Sanskrit, Persian, Urdu, Hindi, and Bengali. He is held in the highest estimation, and is looked upon as their guide by the whole of Hindu India. He has a splendid library which consists of a fine collection of mostly English and Sanskrit books and which receives a regular addition every month. He has made a special study of esoteric Hinduism and can unriddle its enigmas, unravel its mysteries, and explain the rationale of Hindu customs and rites with the profound knowledge at his command. He is a man of intense spirituality and devoutly performs his religious observances with-

out regard to the great inconvenience entailed thereby. In the beginning of 1912, he performed the *Chatuscharma Jagna* in connection with the dedication of a big tank dug out at Madhubani, for which he had to spend a large sum and undergo much bodily trouble. Such a *Jagna* has not been performed during the last two centuries. He has travelled all over India visiting the sacred shrines, including the twelve *Jyotirlingams*, four *Dhamas*, and seven *Puris*. He helps hundreds of Brahmins by employing them in different places to perform religious ceremonies. He personally supervises the working of all the departments of the Raj, and attends to the estate correspondence daily for nearly five hours at a stretch.

He is remarkably patient and never gets out of temper even if his menials should commit the gravest of faults. He annually celebrates with due solemnity and at considerable expense Ganesh Puja, Indra Puja, and Durga Puja, accompanied by a variety of entertainments, which attract large crowds from places far and wide. At Darbhanga, every year a fête, called Shri Rameshwar Mangala, is held in his honour, which contributes to the delight and amusement of many thousands of people of all ranks and classes. He has a splendid palace at Rajnagar in the Darbhanga District, built at a cost of twenty-four lakhs of rupees—the finest example of the magnificent oriental architecture in Bengal since the Moghul period. The palace is grand and picturesque and is superbly furnished. It is fitted with electric lights, fans, telephones, lifts, water-pipes, hammams, fountains, and other scientific appliances. He has constructed temples at Darbhanga, Bankipore, Benares, Kamakhya, Kharagpore, and other places, and has at great expense restored or reconstructed the temples destroyed by earthquake in the Kamakhya, Sylhet, and Kangra Valleys. He is at present engaged in the construction of a marble temple at Rajnagar, which will cost him many lakhs.

The Maharajah Bahadur presided over many important public functions, numbering not less than a hundred, held at different places, as Calcutta, Darbhanga, Muzaffarpore, Benares, Allahabad, Lahore, and Meerut, and at each of them he delivered weighty and eloquent speeches which were admired as embodying sound views and counsels of wisdom. The most prominent of them were the memorable sittings of Sri Bharat Dharma Mahamandala at Delhi, Calcutta, and Allahabad, the last being attended by no less a personage than Sri Sankaracharyaji of Puri : the first and second sessions of the Parliament of Religions held at Calcutta in 1909, and at Allahabad in 1910 ; the first sitting of the All-India Brahmana Conference, and the Industrial Conference, both at Lahore in 1909. It was he who, on the demise

of His Majesty King-Emperor Edward VII, successfully organised a grand Hindu mourning procession at Calcutta and led it from the city to the maidan, where he made a memorable speech expressing the great grief of the Hindus at the death of their beloved King, and sumptuously feasted a vast multitude of the poor.

The Darbhanga Raj has always been profuse in charities of all kinds, particularly the religious ones, and the present Maharajah has fully kept up this noble tradition. The most prominent of his benefactions have been to the following institutions: Victoria Memorial Hospital, Rs. 34,000; Famine Relief Fund (1900), Rs. 1,50,000; Queen Victoria Memorial Fund, Rs. 1,00,000; Calcutta University, Rs. 2,50,000; Bharata Dharma Mahamandal, Rs. 25,000; King Edward Memorial Fund (Bengal), Rs. 100,000; Patna Municipality, Rs. 25,000; and investment for Anathalaya, Rs. 1,00,243. In times of famine, he granted large remissions of rent to the ryots besides spending liberally on relief works of public utility. He has placed all lovers of Hinduism under a deep debt of gratitude by his princely gift of five lakhs of rupees to the Hindu University scheme, as it is the biggest sum yet given for the purpose. He is now at the head of the whole movement, and it is hoped that, under his leadership, the Hindu University will soon become an accomplished fact. When H. H. the Agha Khan subscribed Rs. 5,000 to the Hindu University, the Maharajah Bahadur sanctioned Rs. 20,000 to the Mahomedan University, which proved beyond doubt that the two communities were mutually friendly and wished each other's advancement. He gave Rs. 25,000 to the Calcutta Imperial Reception Fund, and as President of the Pageant Sub-Committee, he twice visited Simla to consult General Drummond on the subject, and took great pains to make it a success. In recognition of his services in connection with the Calcutta Pageant, His Majesty the King-Emperor was pleased to present an autograph photo to him in person. Since the advent of the present Maharajah, the Darbhanga Raj has spent the following sums in round numbers for public good:—Pension, Rs. 3,04,200; Donation, Rs. 12,07,200; Charities, Rs. 3,55,800; Subscriptions, Rs. 2,75,000; Religious Buildings, Rs. 2,53,600; Public Utility, Rs. 2,11,000. If we add to these the Famine and Anathalaya Investment Funds and his donations to the Hindu University amounting to another sixteen lakhs, the grand total will swell into the magnificent sum of Rs. 42,43,400.

His estates are situated in the Districts of Muzaffarpore, Darbhanga, Monghyr, Bhagalpore, Purneah, Gaya, and Patna, and also in Assam. There are in the Raj nearly fifteen European Sub-Managers and Factory Managers under a European General Manager. He owns fine

palatial buildings at Darjeeling, Simla, Allahabad, Benares, Purneah, Muzaffarpore, and other places. He has established a Bank at Darbhanga. He possesses a large and fine collection of jewellery, including such historic gems as the Dholepur Crown and the Nepal garland.

He has three children: the Maharaj Kumari was born in 1905; the senior Maharaj Kumar, the heir-apparent, Kameshwar Singh, in 1907; and the junior Maharaj Kumar, Vishweshwar Singh, in 1908.

He has been instrumental in starting a well-conducted Hindi weekly paper, which is published at Darbhanga, under the name of *Mithilamihir.* He is an expert at chess, and a fine player at rackets.

To promote the interest of the Hindu University he has toured in many places with success, and is the President of its governing body. He has been made a Member of the Executive Council of the Province of Behar and Orissa, which he accepted at great personal sacrifice He has frequently given excellent parties at his residences in Darbhanga and Calcutta, the most notable among them being those in honour of Lord Curzon, Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, Sir Edward Baker, and His Highness the Agha Khan. When he went to Delhi to be present at the last Coronation Durbar, Hindus, Jains and Mahomedans, in a body, accorded him a grand reception at the Railway Station. It was then that he, under the instructions of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of the Panjab, organised a vast and brilliant Hindu procession consisting of the leaders of different Hindu sects, and distinguished Pandits, including Sri Sankaracharyaji, who all came in response to his invitation and joined the procession for the purpose of offering prayers for the welfare of Their Imperial Majesties. In the morning of the 16th December 1911, the representatives of the Hindus, Mahomedans, and Sikhs, who had taken part in the prayers were introduced by the Lieutenant-Governor to Their Imperial Majesties at the Royal Camp, and the Maharajah Bahadur, as their leader, was the first to enjoy that privilege and honour.

Here we will take leave of the public career of one whose life is full of interest, instruction, and encouragement. It may be mentioned that in the present post as well as in all the other official positions which it has been the lot of Maharajah Sir Rameshwara Singh Bahadur to occupy, he has always been credited with a great talent for work, and a determination to make himself master of the minutest details connected with any office held by him. His strenuous intellectual exercise, his extraordinary patience, and his consummate tact make him tower high above all his compeers. He has a long prospect of usefulness before him as a leader of Hindu India, and his talents cannot fail to be of substantial benefit to the country.

MAHARAJAH SIR VENKATA SWETA CHALAPATHI RANGA ROW BAHADUR, G. C. I. E., OF BOBBILI

Bobbili, an ancient zamindari, in the Vizagapatam District of the Madras Presidency, covers an area of 920 square miles, and comprises 202 villages, seventy agraharams, and six mokhasas. It has a rent-roll of about six lakhs, the Government dues being nearly a lakh and a half. The chief town, Bobbili, is situated at a distance of seventy miles north-west of Vizagapatam. The Bobbili family belongs to the tribe known as Velama Doras, who, according to the historian Orme, "esteem themselves the highest blood of Native Indians next to the Brahmins, equal to the Rajputs, and support this pre-eminence by the haughtiest observances, insomuch that the breath of a different religion, and even of the meaner Indians, requires ablution." The men of this race are, as a rule, well-built and of a war-like disposition.

Nirvana Rayappa, the fifteenth Rajah of Venkatagiri, who had accompanied Sher Mahomed Khan, the Nawab of Chicacole, on his march against Vizagapatam, obtained from him, for services rendered, the Rajam estate, where he built a fort which he designated Bebbooly (the royal tiger), in honour of his patron, Sher (tiger). The name has since been corrupted into Bobbili, Rajah Nirvana Rayappa made his son, Lingappa, ruler of Bobbili, and proceeded to Venkatagiri. The title of *Ranga Rao* (Victor in Battle) and twelve villages were conferred in perpetuity on Rajah Lingappa by the Emperor of Delhi for the part he had played in rescuing a son of Sher Mahomed Khan, who had been imprisoned by a fituridar, while on a hunting excursion. In 1756 the disorderly behaviour of some of the Polegars in the Vizagapatam District called for measures of repression, when M. Bussy marched with a force to restore order. On his arrival he was informed that the Chief of Bobbili was the instigator of all disturbances. Before attacking him, M. Bussy offered him pardon for the past and land of equal value elsewhere, if he would abandon his ancestral estate, but the offer was refused. The attack on the fort of Bobbili is one of the most remarkable in Indian history.

Suffice it to say that there was a regular slaughter of the defenders of the fort, and when M. Bussy entered it as victor, an old man crept from a hut and presented to him a child, Chinna Ranga Row, as the son of the dead chief. M. Bussy invested Chinna Ranga Row with the chiefship of the lands that had been offered to his fathers One of his successors, Rajah Sweta Chalapathi Ranga Row Bahadur, was very helpful to the British Government in apprehending the fituridars who had rebelled in the Ganjam and Vizagapatam Districts. He passed away in 1862, and was succeeded by his adopted son, Rajah Sitarama Ranga Row Bahadur, who survived the elevation for only five years. After him, his widow, Rani Lakshmi Chellayamma, managed the estate. She was a large-hearted and charitably-disposed lady; for during the terrible famine of 1873 in Bengal, she sent to that country paddy to the value of half a lakh to relieve the distressed. For this noble act the Government of India conferred on her the personal distinction of *Rani*. She was very useful to the British during the rebellion at Baster. In 1872 she adopted the present Maharajah, Sir Venkata Sweta Chalapathi Ranga Row Bahadur, G. C. I. E., the third of the sons of the late Rajah of Venkatagiri.

He was born on the 8th September 1862 at Venkatagiri. He received his education under the late Dr. Marsh for more than three years. In 1880 he had a bereavement in the death of his wife, after giving birth to a son, the Kumara Rajah of Bobbili. After a short time, he married his deceased wife's sister. He was installed on the *gadi* of his ancestors in November 1881. He at once raised the Middle School at Bobbili to a High School, established a poor house, and started an association for the discussion of subjects of public utility. Two years later, Sir M E. Grant Duff, Governor of Madras, who visited Bobbili, described it as "a clean and well-kept town, furnished with all the appliances of Anglo-Indian civilisation—schools, hospitals, and what not—all within a walk of the remains of the old Fort, where 126 years ago was enacted one of the most ghastly stories which ever Indian history had to record." In 1883 the Rajah's second wife died in childbed. In 1887 he commemorated the Jubilee of the Queen-Empress Victoria by establishing a market at Bobbili, called "The Victoria Market." In 1888, after a lengthy correspondence, the Government of Madras recognised the hereditary title of *Rajah* which had been enjoyed by his ancestors. The same year he married the present Maharani. In April 1893, he left for England; and he had the privilege of paying his loyal respects to Her Majesty, who presented him with her autograph photo. He interviewed all the royal personages, and visited Paris, Lucerne, Venice, Florence, and Rome. In 1894, in commemoration of his English tour, he built a hall, known as "The Victoria Town

Hall," the foundation-stone of which was laid by His Excellency Lord Wenlock, Governor of Madras, who, at the entertainment got up in his honour, proposed the health of the Maharajah and said :—

Here is a town and an estate administered in the most excellent and most practical manner. I gather, from every source which is open to me to obtain information from, that the people of this country are happy and enjoying themselves in quiet and prosperity, and that you keep a special watch and special guard over their interests in a most special manner. On behalf of the Government I can only express my sincere thanks for the manner in which you look after all those in whom you are interested, and amongst whom your work is cast. The ceremony that I had the honour of being present at this afternoon was a specially interesting one, as it was one commemorating the visit which you yourself paid to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, when you were in England; it is one which will hand down to posterity a record of that visit, and especially of the loyal spirit which was predominating in your own mind at the time when you paid your visit to that country.

In 1895 the distinction of K. C. I. E. was conferred on him, when he made a remission of Rs. 30,000 to his tenants. He endowed two beds in the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital, one called after Lady Elgin, and the other after Lady Wenlock. In 1896 he was nominated to a seat in the Legislative Council. Two years later, he was re-nominated, when he expressed his views against the Tenancy Bill to the satisfaction of his constituents. During the famine of 1896-7, he subscribed Rs. 10,000 to the Indian Famine Relief Fund, spent about a quarter of a lakh on irrigation works, and supplied grain at a very low rate to the zamin servants and to the poor of all classes. He won the personal distinction of *Maharajah* in 1899. In 1902 he represented the aristocracy of Southern India at the Coronation of His Majesty King Edward VII in England. When the reformed Council was inaugurated in 1910, he was selected by the Madras Government to be the first Indian Member of the Executive Council. He was created a G. C. I. E. at the Delhi Durbar of 1911. He is a life-member of the Royal Asiatic Society, and of the East India Association, and is Vice-President of the Madras Landholders' Association, and President of the Madras Imperial League.

Out of the salary drawn by the Maharajah as an Executive Member, he gave the major portion to the King Edward Memorial Fund, and made over the remainder for the construction of the Lawley Institute at Ootacamund, which is a residential club, where both visitors and residents, irrespective of caste, have private accommodation for themselves and their servants, besides rooms for reading and billiards and other in-door recreations and outside courts, for tennis, badminton, etc. At the foundation-

stone-laying ceremony of the Institute, on the 15th September 1911, the Maharajah said :—

You know I was a member of Council for nearly a year, during which period I drew the usual salary, and wanted to utilise the amount for some useful or charitable purposes. I regret very much that I was unable to continue in office till the end of the term. When I accepted this important post I had distinctly in my heart two main feelings. Firstly, I felt it was my duty to serve the country, and, secondly, I trusted it would be a great inducement to younger Zamindars to fit themselves for such a responsible post. I need not remind you, gentlemen, that it is the duty of men of my rank and position to serve the Government, not for considerations of self-interest, but for the good of the country. While I was thinking as to how the salary I drew should be utilised, it struck me that a portion of it should be associated with the name of the Governor in whose term of office I had the honour of serving the Government. Consequently, I approached the Governor on the subject and obtained his most kind permission to do so. When I was here last year in my official capacity, I saw the great inconvenience felt by the Indian gentry, official and non-official, in procuring quarters at this place when they came here on short leave, to lay their representations before the heads of the Departments of the Government, and felt that something should be done to meet this inconvenience.

On the 18th July 1911, the Maharajah completed the thirtieth year of his administration of the affairs of his zamindari. From the 18th July 1881 to the 18th July 1911, the income of the estate was Rs. 1,67,27,459, and the expenditure Rs. 1,62,69,425, leaving a small credit balance of Rs. 4,58,034. The sum of Rs. 9,12,488 was foregone in remissions to ryots and ordinary debtors. An outlay of Rs. 7,04,892 was made on buildings including the Samasthanam High School, the Bobbili Victoria Town Hall, the Victoria Diamond Jubilee Town Hall at Vizagapatam, a Poor House, the Victoria Market, and the Women's Hospital at Bobbili, and the Edward Town Hall at Parvathipore. The sums paid to schools, charitable institutions, subscriptions, and donations, went up to Rs. 9,48,717. Under this head come the Maharajah's High School at Bobbili, supported entirely by the Maharajah himself, the Maharanee's Caste Girls' School, and the Bobbili Choultry, Rs. 19,110 were expended in endowing beds in the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital, Madras; Rs. 20,000 in subscriptions to various Queen Victoria Memorials in Madras; and Rs. 9,733 contributed to the King Edward VII Memorial Funds.

The Maharajah enjoys the blessing of a large family of sons and grandsons. He is held in high esteem by his numerous friends, both European and Indian. He has many more years of useful, beneficent, and active life before him.

THE HONOURABLE MAHARAJAH SIR RAVANESHWAR PRASAD SINGH BAHADUR, K. C. I. E., OF GIDHOUR

Gidhour is one of the most ancient places in India. Gridhravata, the spot consecrated to the trident-bearing God, is mentioned as one of the sacred places by Pulastya in the Mahabharata and by the Buddhist pilgrims from China in the third century A. D.

The most important relic of the Hindu supremacy is the phallic emblem of Baidyanath, which has existed ever since the great Epic age. The temple standing over the far-famed Shivaic emblem, was built by an ancestor of the present Maharajah Bahadur of Gidhour. Of the Buddhistic period there exist traces in the form of a Buddhistic monastery built on the Gidhour hills; but the most interesting relic of the age consists of the ruins of a fortification and of a Buddhistic stupa in some state of preservation. The walls of the fortification which are extant even now at the foot of the Gidhour hills, and over which five horsemen can ride abreast, remind us of the innovations of the Mahomedan period.

The two Sanskrit words 'Gridhra' and 'Vata' stand for the corresponding Hindi words 'Gidh' and 'Var'. But 'V' is pronounced 'oa' in Hindi. Hence the combination of 'Gidh' and 'Var' has changed into 'Gidhour' in Hindi. It is therefore plain that the "Gridhravata" of the ancient Hindus, the "Gridhrakuta" of the Buddhistic period, and the contracted "Gidhour" of the Mahomedan and British periods are one and the same place.

The Gidhour Raj is situated on the mountain fastnesses of Behar, between Bengal proper and the United Provinces, and embraces an area of about 450 square miles, with a population of nearly 300,000. The present family of Gidhour are Lunar Rajputs of the Chandail Clan, who trace their descent from the Chandails driven out of Mahoba by Prithvi Raj Chohan, the last Hindu Emperor of Delhi. As a result of the conquest, the Chandail Chiefs set out to seek their fortunes elsewhere, and established the Chandail principalities of Agori, Barhar, Burdi, and Bijaigarh, all in the Central Province. A Chandail king is said to have



THE MAHARAJAH OF GIDHAUR

brought into the field 36,000 cavalry and 45,000 infantry, supported by 640 elephants; but a fuller account of the Chandail Chiefs can be found in the Archæological Survey Reports by General Cunningham, and the particulars and incidents of the war are recorded in the Prithvi Raj Rasa by the bard, Chand.

Tradition has it that the younger brother of the Chief of Burdi, Bir Bikram Singh, who was a burden on the family resources, keenly felt his awkward position. Musing over it, he fell into a dream, in which he saw the god Shiva who drew the three lines of ashes, or the "Tripundra," across his forehead, and directed him to undertake a pilgrimage to Baidyanath. In accordance with this dream, he undertook the pilgrimage with some followers, and, having conquered the "Dooshad" Rajah of Gidhour, the aboriginal Chief of the hill tribes, established a separate principality there for himself in 1066 A. D.

Thus it was a love of adventure and conquest that caused the present family of Gidhour to leave their homes in Upper India and settle in Behar. During the Mahomedan rule they played no mean part; and to the British rule that succeeded it, they have stood loyal. The history of the Raj was comparatively uneventful until the reign of Akbar, when Rajah Puran Mal of Gidhour, the eighth in descent from Bir Bikram, the founder of the Raj, was reckoned one of the most powerful Chiefs of Behar. Many pious acts are attributed to him: he is said to have built several temples, the grandest of all being the far-famed temple of Baidyanath which bears an inscription to the effect that "the temple was erected in Saka 1517 (1595 A.D.) by Puranmal, the 'Nripati' of pure mind and untarnished qualities."

According to the Ain-i-Akbari, the Rajahs of Gidhour were required to furnish 259 horse and 10,000 foot, whenever required for Imperial purposes. In 1068 Hijri, Rajah Dalan Singh obtained a firman from the Emperor Shajahan for espousing the cause of Prince Dara and helping the royal army that had been sent against his brother, Prince Shuja. "It behoves him (Rajah Dalan Singh) now to proceed to the exalted Court with a body of his own sowars and infantry in order that they may participate in the festivities."

The above quotation is the English rendering of an extract from one of the firmans that still adorn the archives of the Gidhour Raj family. All these do clearly show the glory and the high rank enjoyed by the Chiefs of Gidhour.

Five generations after, in 1798, the British Government recognised Rajah Gopal Singh as Chief, and since then the rulers of Gidhour have stood as staunch and active supporters of the British cause. In the middle

of the last century, Maharajah Jaimongal Singh Bahadur of Gidhour, grandson of Rajah Gopal Singh, rendered valuable services first in the suppression of the Santal rebellion of 1854, and, secondly, in the far more sanguinary Sepoy Mutiny of 1857, in quelling which he played a conspicuous part and thereby evinced his devoted loyalty to the British Throne. His services were gratefully acknowledged by the Government, and his loyalty was rewarded in many ways, more especially by the substantial grant of a Jaghir. The benign Government, however, did not stop here, but bestowed on him the honour of the Most Exalted Order of the Knight Commander of the Star of India, the Maharajah Bahadur being the first nobleman in Behar to gain that distinction.

Maharajah Sir Jaimongal Singh Bahadur, K.C.S.I., was a Persian scholar and a man of great public spirit. He made many improvements and added fresh territories. The charitable deeds of this prince, not to speak of those done during the famine of 1874, were much appreciated by all. His life was devoted to the general good, and his true philanthropic spirit was shown in the magnificent gift to the East Indian Railway of the land required by it for the Chord line.

Subsequently in 1877 at the Imperial Assemblage of Delhi, which Maharajah Sir Jaimongal Singh Bahadur, K.C.S.I., was invited to attend, the title of "Maharajah Bahadur" was made hereditary in the family. He was also present at the landing in Calcutta of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, (afterwards King Edward VII), who treated him with marked distinction.

In 1867 Maharajah Sir Jaimongal Singh Bahadur, K.C.S.I., finding the inevitable end approaching, installed according to the custom of the family, his eldest son, Maharaj Kumar Shiva Prasad Singh, on the *gadi* and retired. His Excellency the Viceroy Earl Mayo, paid a gracious visit to the retired Maharajah at Gidhour. Sir Jaimongal Singh died on the 25th August 1881. Maharajah Shiva Prasad Singh Bahadur was also a Sanskrit and Persian scholar and was well versed in English. He did not long survive his father: he died in 1885. During this short period, his kind heart and gentle disposition had so endeared him to his people that to the present day his memory is held in great respect and esteem.

The present Maharajah, the Hon'ble Sir Ravaneshwar Prasad Singh Bahadur, K. C. I. E., is the eldest son of the late Maharajah, and the twenty-second in descent from the founder of the house. He was born in 1860 and brought up under the experienced eye of his great grandfather, Maharajah Sir Jaimongal Singh Bahadur.

Great care was taken to give him an all-round education. He was taught English, Sanskrit and Persian. He was trained to respect the tradi-

tions of his great house and the ancient religion of his forefathers. In addition to them he was given a special training in the minutiæ of estate management.

He was installed on the *gadi* on Friday the 18th September 1885. The Khillat was conferred on him, as successor to the hereditary title of Maharajah Bahadur, at Bhagalpur, on the 28th August 1886, by Sir Rivers A. Thomson, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. He was exempted from personal attendance at Civil Courts. In 1887 the Maharajah Bahadur was appointed a member of the Jamui Local Board, and also of the Central Committee of the Imperial Institute. He soon realized the duties and responsibilities of his exalted position and has proved a model Zamindar. He has fulfilled all the popular expectations of him due to his birth and training. He began his public career as a member of the District Board of Monghyr two years after his installation. In March of the same year the marriage of the Maharajah Bahadur was celebrated, which connected the house of Gidhour with that of Deera in the United Provinces. This connection was a happy one, as the two houses are famous for their ancient lineage and for their unflinching loyalty to the British Throne. He was then only a young man who had given marked proofs of his ability, zeal, and assiduity in the government of his estates and in the conduct of public affairs. This attracted the attention of Lord Dufferin, Viceroy and Governor-General of India. His Excellency was pleased to make a halt at the Gidhour Railway station in order to receive an address, to which he replied in kindly terms, and asked that the Sirdars who were there should be presented to him. In January 1890 the Maharajah was invested with the powers of a Magistrate. In the same year, he was blessed with a son and heir.

It was about this time that the Maharajah Bahadur won the hearts of the people by introducing many beneficent reforms, educational, social and religious. As a patron of learning, he has established a Sanskrit Vidyalaya, in which free education is given to Brahmins. As a social reformer, he took active measures to remove some evil customs in connection with the *Upanayanam* ceremonies of the Kshatriya families.

Many improvements have been made in the beautiful town of Gidhour, a brick-built bazaar, a neatly-constructed school, a free dispensary, and the guest house being some of his additions. He maintains at Gidhour and throughout the Raj numerous "Thakurbatis," or temples, at a great cost, and "Sadabratas" or alms houses, where rations of rice, flour, dhal, ghee, and fuel are daily distributed free to all pilgrims, 'Sadhus' and travellers. A temple has been erected by him at an immense cost and consecrated to Gouri Sankar. A palace, named Suknivas, has

been built, and the Srivilas Palace has been fitted up in the latest English style.

In 1893 he was nominated by the Government to a seat in the Bengal Legislative Council, and the honour has since then been repeated four times. In the following year he firmly supported the Government on the occasion of the amendment of the Bengal Municipal Act of 1884. He played a very important part in the discussion of the Land Records Maintenance Bill in January 1885. In the same year, Her Majesty the Queen-Empress created the Maharajah a Knight Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire. It was with his characteristic boldness and ability that he brought to the notice of the authorities the inconveniences and sufferings of the litigant public at the hands of the Subordinate Magistrates, and tried to reform the weights and measures of Behar—a question which was taken up later on by the India Government in the regime of Lord Curzon.

In 1900 Sir John Woodburn, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, paid a visit to Gidhour, and opened the charitable dispensary founded by the Maharajah Bahadur to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Her Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. In the following year he was elected President of the Rajput Maha Sava, held at Lucknow. In 1902 the Maharajah was selected by the Government to represent Behar at the Coronation of King Edward VII in England, but he could not accept the invitation. He was, however, present at the Coronation Durbar at Delhi in 1903. In February of the same year Gidhour was honoured by a visit from His Honour Sir Andrew Fraser, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. In the month of April the marriage of the eldest Maharaj Kumari with the heir-apparent of the Chief of Kanoth was celebrated with great eclat, and several Feudatory Chiefs from Rajputana graced the occasion with their presence. This matrimonial alliance is considered a very satisfactory one as the bridegroom, Kumar Kesari Singh, belongs to the premier clan of Rajputs of the Solar Dynasty, and as the connection has brought together the Gidhour house and that of Udaipur.

The Maharajah Bahadur was elected by the representatives of Bengal as one of the Canopy-holders to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales (now King George V), on the occasion of his visit to Calcutta in 1905-06. In the same year he represented the landed interest as a Member of the Committee formed to revise the Bengal Tenancy Acts.

In 1907 he was favoured with a visit by His Excellency the Viceroy, the Countess of Minto, Lady Elliot, and a party from Government House. The Maharajah Bahadur commemorated the event by erecting, with His Excellency's consent, a Clock Tower, called the "Minto Tower", on the

main road in front of the palace. It was a great pleasure to him to be appointed, by Her Excellency Lady Minto, one of the patrons of the 'Minto Fancy Fête' in aid of public charity. In all such matters he is ever active, and his donations, both public and private, have been liberal. His princely contribution to the Fraser Scholarship to be awarded to the Behari students of Medicine and Engineering, is worthy of note, besides his generous help to other charitable purposes. One thing more is worth recording, his act of philanthropy in the great famine of 1903, when he opened up relief works in the affected areas, and thereby not only saved the lives of the poor tenants, but did much to further the interests of agriculture by improving irrigation. Moreover, a remission of rent amounting to Rs. 25,000 was also made to his famished tenants. In 1908 the Maharajah Bahadur was invited by the Government to attend a Chapter of the Indian Empire held at Agra in honour of the august guest, His Majesty the Amir of Afghanistan.

The Silver Jubilee of the Maharajah Bahadur was duly solemnised on the 22nd March 1911 by the loyal subjects of the Raj for the many benefits and blessings enjoyed by them under his good and benign rule of twenty-five years. To testify his appreciation of the demonstration the Maharajah Bahadur remitted to the tenants of the Raj one anna in the rupee for the Jubilee year, besides granting Rs. 5,000 for distribution to the local public institutions. An endowment was also made for awarding from 1912 a Silver Jubilee Gold Medal to the most successful student of the Jamui Sub-Divisional H.E. School, in the Matriculation Examination of the Calcutta University.

To commemorate the auspicious and happy event, the foundation-stone of the Silver Jubilee Dharmasala was also laid by the Maharajah Bahadur, at the request of the organisers of the movement.

In the historic Delhi Durbar of 1912, which was rendered unique by the august presence of Their Most Gracious Majesties the King-Emperor George V and the Queen-Empress Mary, the Maharajah Bahadur was also present with his suite and paid the most respectful and loyal homage to them.

On the occasion of the public reception of Their Majesties at Calcutta, the Maharajah Bahadur took a prominent part and evinced the true Rajput loyalty in holding the 'Peshkush' of one hundred and one gold mohurs before Their Majesties.

At the Garden Party given on the 2nd January 1912, the Maharajah Bahadur was treated with marked distinction by His Majesty.

The marriage of the second Maharaj Kumari was solemnized on the

10th of March 1913, the bridegroom being the eldest Raj Kumar and heir-apparent of the Nimrana Durbar in Rajputana. The noteworthy features of this marriage are that the bridegroom was an alumnus of the Mayo College at Ajmere and that the Raja Bahadur Janak Singhji of Nimrana, the father of the bridegroom, is the direct descendant of Maharajah Prithvi Raj Chohan, the last Hindu Emperor of Delhi.

Another notable wedding that was celebrated in the same year is worth mentioning. It was the marriage of the Maharaj Kumar Bahadur which took place at Benares on the 29th June 1913 after the sad demise of his first wife, the eldest daughter of the Rajah Saheb of Ranka, in the District of Palamau; the bride this time being a daughter of the Rajah Saheb Pratap Singhji of Kama, the nearest relation of the Jeypur *gadi* and a well-known figure in the Imperial Cadet Corps. The Kama family is an offshoot of Maharaj Man Singhji, a Kachwaba Rajput. This marriage has only revived the almost forgotten matrimonial relation with Jeypur, particulars *of which can be gathered from Akbar Namah, in which we find that* a daughter of the Gidhour House was given away in marriage to a Kumar of the famous Man Singhji of Jeypur.

On the creation of the new Province of Behar and Orissa with its reformed Legislative Council, the Maharajah Bahadur has become one of its non-official members. In the first annual Budget Debate he made a highly instructive and suggestive speech condemning the evils of growing litigation in the country. The Hon'ble Mr. Gait, in appreciation of the force of his speech, called for his practical suggestions towards mitigating the evils complained of. The Maharajah Bahadur recommended, as a partial solution, the establishment of the Arbitration Board after the old Panchayet system but in a modified form suited to the improved and altered conditions of the country.

As a life Vice-President of the Behar Landholders' Association, the Hon'ble the Maharajah Bahadur presided over the deliberations of its annual general meeting, held on the 5th August 1913, and his presidential speech was worthy of the occasion.

The following extract from the daily "Beharee" shows how it was appreciated by the press and the public alike :—

It was one of the best things heard at a meeting of the Behar Landholders' Association and perhaps no such well thought-out, candid and vigorous utterance has been made by any President of the Association, since the lamented demise of the Maharajah Bahadur Sir Lakshmeshwar Prasad Singh of Darbhanga. The Maharajah Bahadur maintains the best traditions of the family and is a worthy representative of his ancestors. His simple manners, his religious zeal, his extensive charities, his broad sympathies, his

readiness to help the poor and to succour the distressed, his unstinting hospitality, his devotion to the public good, and his unflinching loyalty to Government are some of the best features of his character that have won for him the love, esteem, and admiration of all.

The friendly visit of His Excellency Lord Hardinge, the most popular Viceroy and Governor-General of India, to the Maharajah Bahadur's Bankipur house on the 30th November 1913 is worthy of note.

In connection with the establishment by Government of the Behar University at Bankipore, the capital of the new Province, the Maharajah Bahadur's endowment for the award of "Hardinge" scholarship of Rupees ten a month and of a silver "Bayley" medal is commendable. The first is to be given to the most successful Rajput student every year passing the Matriculation Examination in the first division, and the second to the student standing first in the order of merit and obtaining first-class honour in Sanskrit in the M. A. Degree Examination of the said University.

In his private life the Maharajah Bahadur is an affectionate father, a kind master, and a sympathetic and true friend. He is still in the prime of his life and enjoys the entire confidence of the British Government.

"Jato Dhurma Stato Joya" is the motto of his life. The Maharajah Bahadur is blessed with an heir of great promise, the Maharaj Kumar Chandra Mouleeswar Prasad Singh Bahadur of Gidhour, who is treading in the footsteps of his illustrious father. He for a short time attended the Calcutta St. Xavier's College, but received his education mostly at home, under the tuition of competent teachers in English, Sanskrit, and Persian. He is now being initiated into the details of estate management under the special care of the Maharajah Bahadur. Like the Maharajah Bahadur, he is a good shot, an expert swordsman, a fine horseman, and a staunch advocate of the best English games. He is Vice-Chairman of the Jamui Local Board, and a member of the District Board, Monghyr.

In the arduous task of the management of his estate the Maharajah Bahadur is relieved in a great measure by his brother, Rao Maheswari Prasad Singh Saheb of Gidhour, who is a member of the District Board of Monghyr, and an Honorary Magistrate of the local Bench, with power to try cases singly. He too, like the Maharajah Bahadur, is a keen sportsman and an excellent shot.

The management of this very ancient estate reflects the greatest credit upon the Maharajah Bahadur. He is the premier nobleman of Behar, and the Zamindari is prospering under his able administration.

THE HONOURABLE MAHARAJAH SIR MANINDRA CHANDRA NANDY, K. C. I. E., OF KASIMBAZAR

The founder of the illustrious house of Kasimbazar was Diwan Krishna Kanta Nandy, who flourished during the days of Warren Hastings, the first Governor-General of India. When the latter was Commercial Resident of the East India Company at Kasimbazar, Siraj-u-Dowlah, then Nawab Nazim, failing to extort money from him, sent him a prisoner to Murshidabad. It was at that juncture that Babu Krishna Kanta Nandy went to the rescue of Warren Hastings by giving him shelter under his roof. This good deed was never lost; for, in 1772, when Warren Hastings was appointed Governor-General, he made Krishna Kanta his Diwan. Krishna Kanta was at the time in affluent circumstances, having worked as the superintendent of many rich zamindari estates. Hastings subsequently conferred on him a jaghir in Ghazipur, and obtained for his son, Lokenath, the title of *Maharajah* from the Nawab Nazim of Bengal. Before his death in 1778, Kanta Babu, besides the jaghir in Ghazipur, owned immense property in the Districts of Rangpur, Dinajpur, Burdwan, Nadia, Birbhum, Pabna, Murshidabad, Faridpur, Rajshaye, Bogra, and the Twenty-four Parganas. Though he had not the advantage of good education, he was highly spoken of for his business capacity, administrative experience, and knowledge of the world. His son, Maharajah Lokenath Rai Bahadur, who was subject to an incurable malady, died in 1804, leaving a minor son, Kumar Harinath.

When he came of age, he maintained the reputation of the family by his charity and respectable behaviour, and Lord Amherst appreciated his beneficence and conferred on him the title of *Rajah Bahadur*. The impetus that Sanskrit learning received at his hands drew students from far and near, and many scholars in that language came to prominence in his time. He was very fond of music and athletics, and maintained a gymnasium to encourage wrestling and sword-play. He passed away in 1832, when his minor son, Krishnanath, succeeded to the estate.



THE MAHARAJAH OF KASIMBAZAR

Krishnanath was a good scholar, and he spoke and wrote English well. He was always in the company of his European friends, and mixed freely with them. During the viceroyalty of Lord Auckland, he won the distinction of *Rajah Bahadur*. He was a great huntsman, and his shooting excursions were regular moving camps. He frittered away the surplus that had accumulated during his minority; and it is needless to say that he spent nearly half a crore within the short period of four years. It should be said to his credit that he liberally patronised every movement of public utility; and such of the officials of his staff as he thought had his welfare at heart, enjoyed his bounty. On the 31st October 1884, he brought himself to an untimely grave, by committing suicide, while in a state of temporary insanity. A day before his tragic end, he left a will bequeathing his estates for educational purposes and granting his wife, Rani Sarnamoyi, the paltry sum of Rs. 1,500 a month, for her maintenance.

Maharani Sarnamoyi was born in 1827 at Bhatakul, a village in the Burdwan District. In 1838 she married Rajah Krishnanath Rai Bahadur. They had no son, and the Rajah Bahadur had in his will unfortunately withheld from her the right of adoption. Rani Sarnamoyi launched a suit, and it was ultimately proved that, at the time the will was executed, the Rajah was of unsound mind, and accordingly the case was decided in her favour. In 1871 the Government of India recognised her beneficence and loyalty by granting her the personal distinction of *Maharani*; and a promise was at the same time held out to her that the title of *Maharajah* would be conferred on her nephew and heir, Manindra Chandra Nandy. The valuable services rendered by her during the terrible famine of 1874 were greatly appreciated by the Government of India, and they affirmed again that the distinction of Maharajah would be extended to her successor. In 1878 Her Majesty the Queen-Empress Victoria was graciously pleased to admit the Maharani to the Order of the Crown of India. At the durbar held to invest her with the insignia, the Divisional Commissioner, while enumerating her charitable acts, brought to the notice of his hearers that till then the Maharani had spent the munificent sum of eleven lakhs of rupees, and further observed:—

Your appointment to the Order is in recognition of the public spirit as well as of the munificent charity you have at all times and in so many ways displayed. There are doubtless many who hear me to-day, who are far better acquainted than I am, not only with your good deeds, but with the manner in which your vast estates are managed, but there may be some who are not so well informed on these points, and who, while knowing your reputation for charity, have no idea of its scope or of its nature. Under these circumstances it will not, I think, be out of place if I mention a few of those acts of benevolence and liberality which have procured for you this signal mark of Her

Majesty the Empress's approbation. It would not be difficult for me to recount the doings of your long past years, which have, with those that have followed, made your life one long act of charity. * * * * In this country we are accustomed to see a good deal of what I may call spasmodic money-giving, where large sums are frequently given to purposes no doubt very good and very useful, but which are aided not so much because they are so, as because the donors hope to bring their names before the public, or obtain some future reward. This has not been your case. You have not been content to wait till you were asked to give, but have taken steps to ensure worthy objects for assistance being brought to your notice, and have then given liberally, hoping for nothing in return. In a word, your charity has been such as springs from a simple unostentatious desire to do good, when the left hand knoweth not what the right hand doeth, which is as admirable as I fear it is uncommon. Of the management of your large estates, lying in no less than ten districts in Bengal and the North-Western Provinces, I need say but little. In this you have always taken an active part and have manifested an acquaintance with detail and an aptitude for business generally, almost if not quite without parallel among persons of your sex in this country. The consequence is that, aided by your able adviser, Babu Rajib Lochun Rai, you have, while securing the rents to which you are justly entitled, done so without harassing or oppressing your ryots and have thus escaped those difficulties and complications into which so many landowners have of late years fallen. For myself I need not say that the duty which I am called upon to perform to-day is one that gives me great pleasure; for both as Magistrate of the 24-Parganas and as Commissioner of the Dacca Division, I have had on more than one occasion reason to thank you for assistance freely and liberally given on projects which I had in view; and I cannot let this opportunity pass without thanking you for the aid you afforded to the sufferers from that fearful calamity which on the 31st October 1876 swept over the southern portion of the district of Backarganj, carrying death and destruction with it, and leaving behind it distress and misery, from which it will be long before the sufferers fully recover. It only remains for me, Maharani, to hand to you the insignia of the order to which Her Majesty has been pleased to appoint you, with the congratulatory letter of His Excellency the Viceroy and His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and to express the hope that you may live long in all prosperity to enjoy the honour you have now attained and which you have worthily deserved.

The hostel for the lady students attending the Calcutta Medical College was one of her gifts. She inaugurated the Water Works, called after her, at Berhampore, at a cost of three lakhs; she paid annually twenty thousand rupees towards the maintenance of the Berhampore College; she distributed clothes to the poor Brahmins, mendicants, etc., and fed a large number of people on festival days. Her name was a household word in

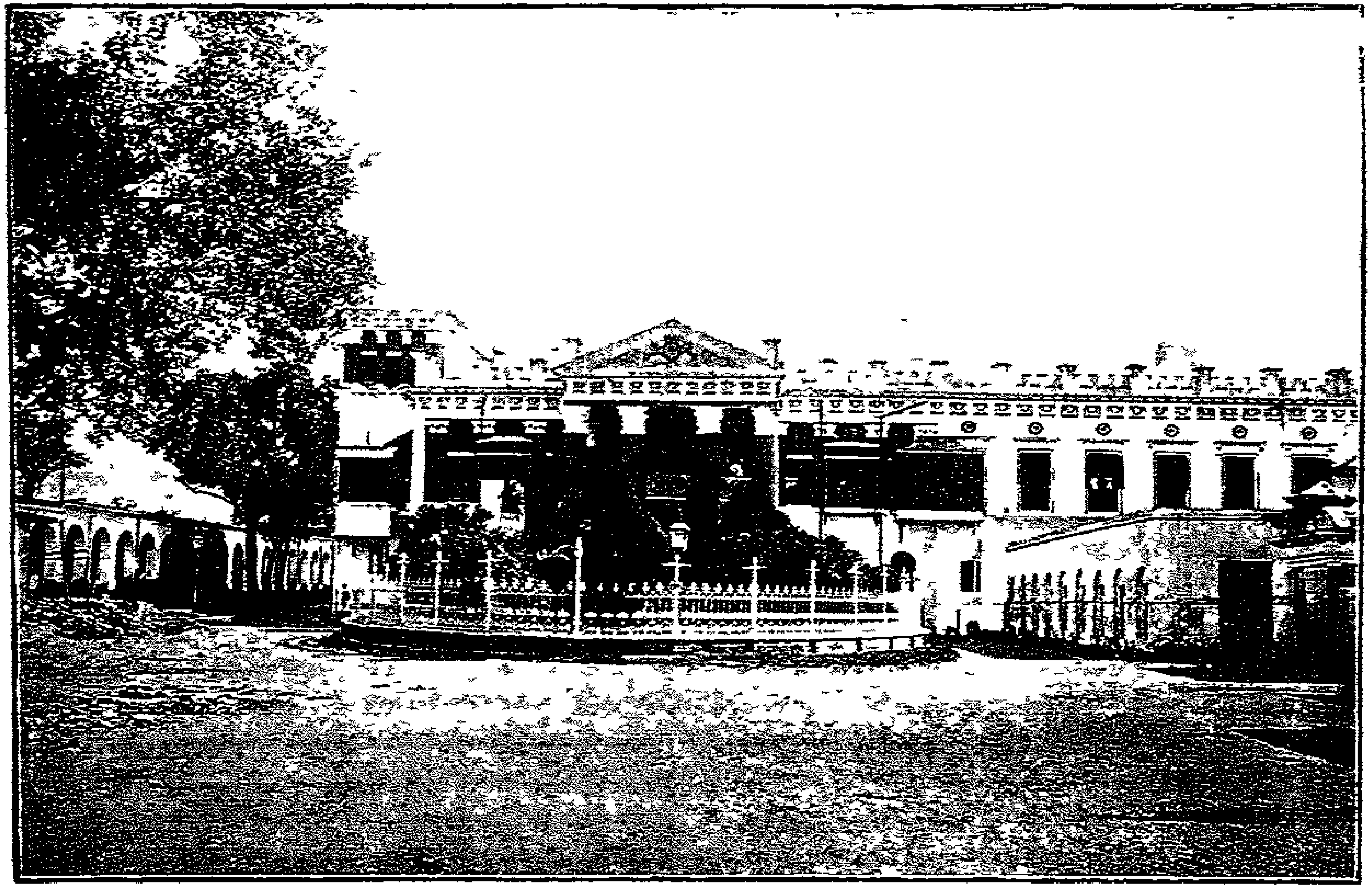
Bengal, and, even to-day, it is venerated. This noble and philanthropic lady passed away on the 25th August 1897. The estate then reverted to her mother-in-law, Rani Harasundari, a recluse at Benares, who relinquished her right in favour of the reversionary heir, Manindra Chandra Nandy, her grandson by her daughter, Govinda Sundari. An honorarium of nine lakhs, and a monthly allowance of ten thousand rupees, were settled on her during her life-time.

Maharajah Manindra Chandra Nandy was born in 1860. A chain of misfortunes befell him while very young, for he lost his mother when he was barely two years old, his elder brother in his seventh year, and his father at eleven. Illness of a virulent type, at the comparatively young age of fourteen, stood in his way of obtaining school education. When change of air and the best of medical treatment recruited his health, he improved his knowledge by private study. Pursuant to the promise held out to Maharani Sarnamoyi, the Government of India conferred the title of *Maharajah* on Manindra Chandra Nandy on the 30th May 1898. In respect of education, he is a great benefactor to his country. He maintains a first grade College at Berhampore, called the "Berhampore Krishnanath College," at an annual expense of Rs. 60,000. Owing to influx of students from different parts of Bengal, additions had to be made to the old College building at an enormous cost. For the accommodation of the College-School students, the Honourable the Maharajah spent about Rs. 1,50,000, and a large building was constructed on the site which had been transferred by the Government free of revenue to the College authorities. He has been corresponding with the Government of Bengal for the establishment of a thoroughly equipped Technical College. At Mathrun, his ancestral village, he has established a High School, with a hostel attached to it, at a cost of half a lakh. He maintains High Schools at Saktipore, Ethora, Beldanga, Jabagram, Saidabad, and Ulipore, where the children of his tenants receive education at a nominal fee. At his own expense, he has sent out students to Japan, America, and Austria, to learn industries. The association for the scientific and industrial education of Indians, the National College, the Bengal Technical Institution, the Deaf and Dumb School, the school for blind childern, the Mahakali Pathasala in Calcutta and at Berhampore, and the Mehula Ram Krishna Asram, count him among their patrons. He pays the fees of fifty pupils attending the Sanskrit College, and more than Rs. 2,000 every year to the poor students sitting for University examinations. More than one hundred and twenty students are provided with free boarding and lodging at Berhampore, Mathrun, and Calcutta. For the encouragement of artisans and agriculturists, he holds an annual exhibition at

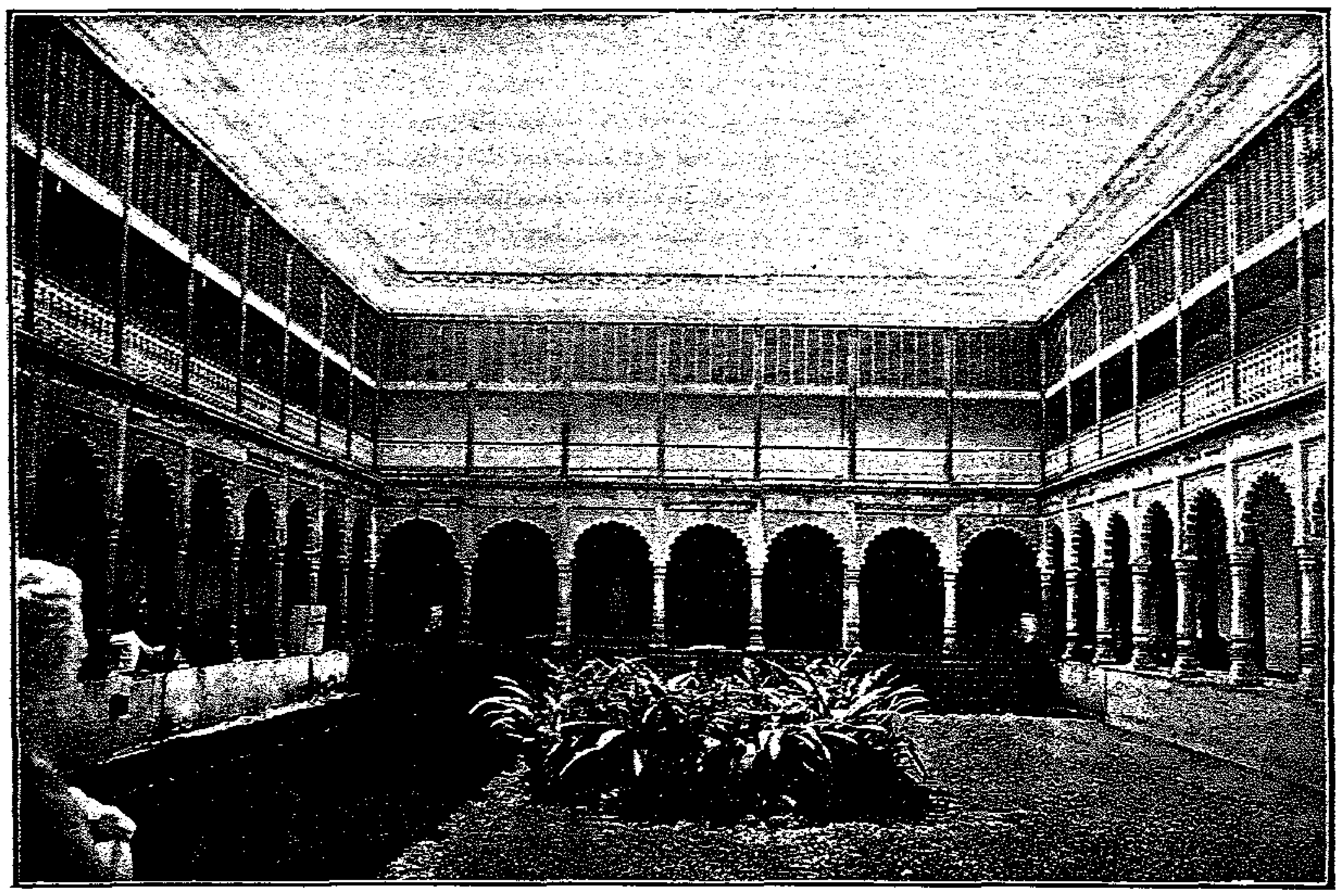
the Banjetia Gardens, Kasimbazar, the major portion of the expenses being borne by him. He is the foremost patron of Bengali literature. He has engaged Pandit Rash Behari Sankhatirtha for editing the great Baisnab Granthas, and Babu Jajneswar Banerji has been preparing the most valuable work of the *History of the Civilization of the World* under his patronage. The site on which the Banjiya Sahitya Parishad building stands is a gift by the Maharajah. The Sahitya Sammilan for promoting the advancement of the Bengali language and literature was held in 1910, under his auspices, at the Kasimbazar Rajbaree. For educational progress alone he spends a lakh of rupees annually, and a similar sum for other charitable purposes. He contributed Rs. 5,000 for constructing the Albert Victor Hospital at Belgachia. He has established the Curzon Charitable Hospital at Kasimbazar, and maintains a similar institution at Ulipore, founded by his aunt and predecessor, Maharani Sarnamoyi. The Water Works at Berhampore inaugurated by her were completed by him. He is very careful in the management of his estates which are scattered in eighteen of the districts of Bengal and the United Provinces, as well as of the six trust estates in Sribati and Matiari in the Katwa sub-division, Berhampore, City Murshidabad, and Gaya. Prompted by his generous nature the Honourable the Maharajah took over the management of these heavily encumbered estates with a view to relieve their proprietors from their embarrassment and supplied funds from his own treasury for the liquidation of their respective debts. He has been Chairman of the Berhampore Municipality for more than ten years, and has held the important offices of such influential bodies as the British Indian Association, the Bengal Landholders' Association, the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce, and the Murshidabad Association. When the right of nominating a representative to the Bengal Council was conferred on the British Indian Association, the Maharajah had the honour of being nominated as such. In 1912 he was elected to the Imperial Council. In the middle of 1914, he contributed Rs. 5,000 towards the Medical College and Hospital for Women and the Nurses Training Institute at Delhi in memory of the late Lady Hardinge, who had initiated the scheme.

Among the conferees of the Birthday Honours in June 1915, he won the well-merited distinction of K.C.I.E.

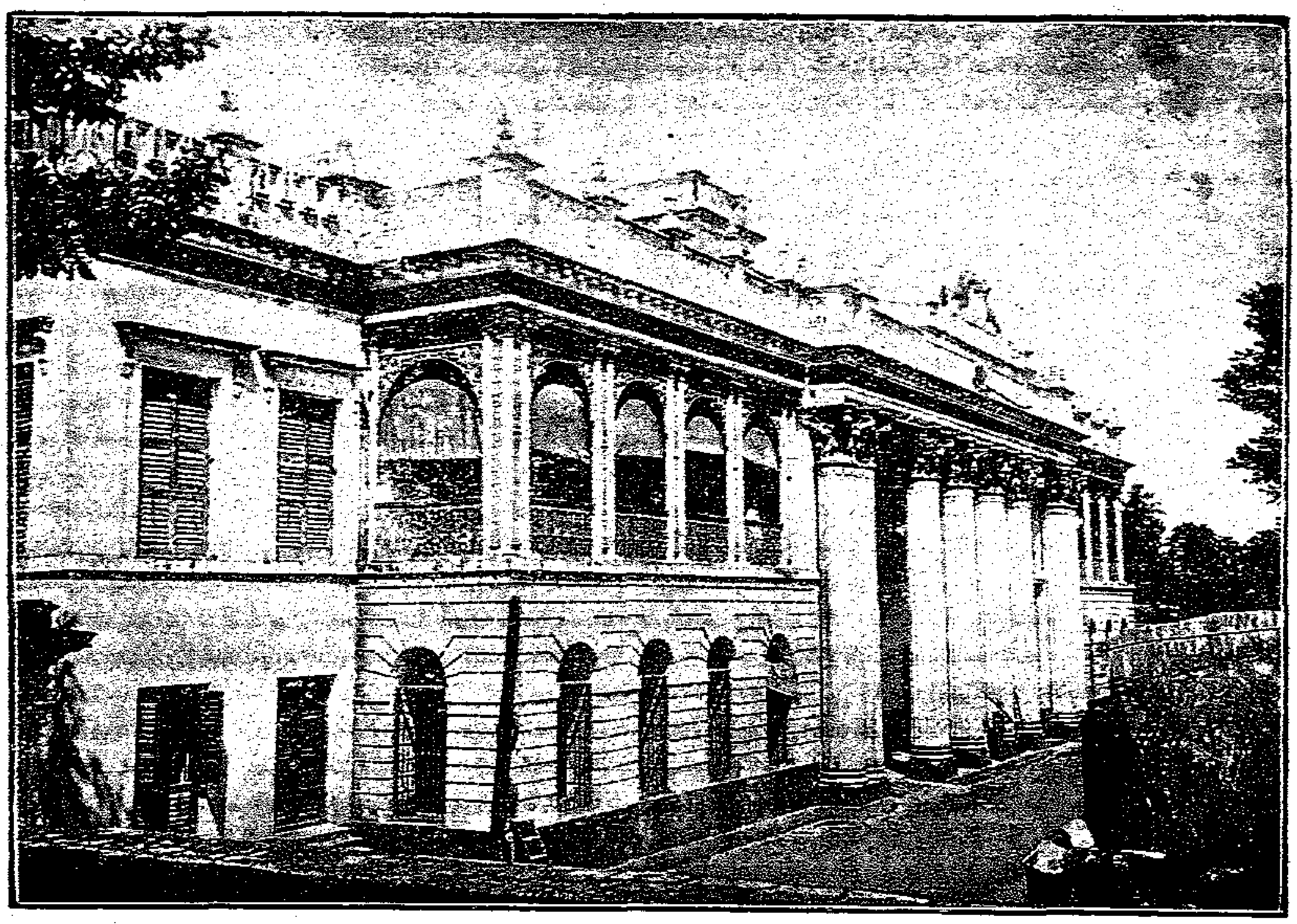
Numerous acts of munificence and usefulness distinguish the career of the Honourable Maharajah Sir Manindra Chandra Nandy, K.C.I.E. He leads an exemplary life, and is in every way worthy of the trust reposed in him by the Government as well as by the people.



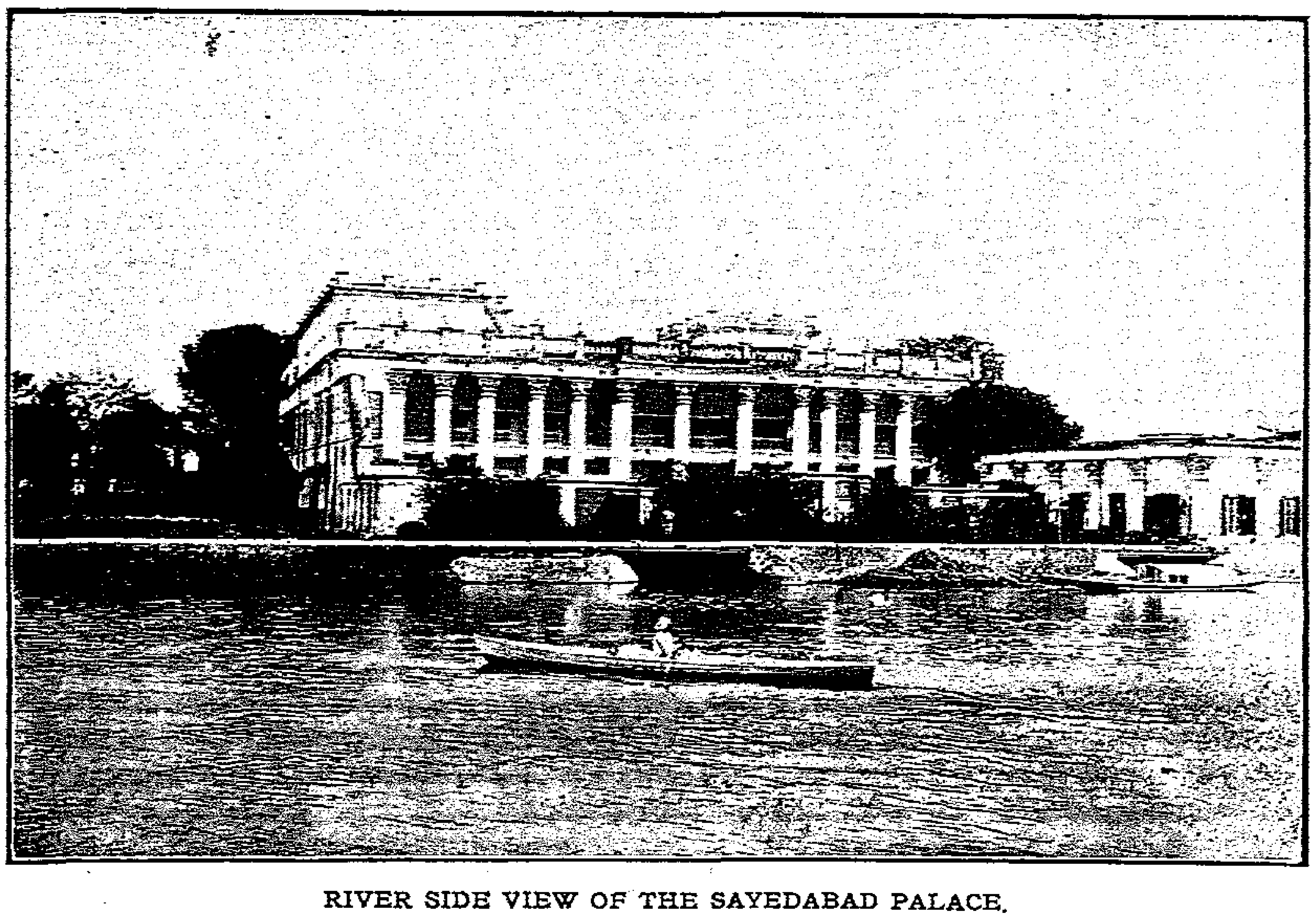
FRONT VIEW OF THE KASIMBAZAR PALACE.



COURT YARD OF THE KASIMBAZAR PALACE.



FRONT VIEW OF THE SAYEDABAD PALACE.



RIVER SIDE VIEW OF THE SAYEDABAD PALACE.

THE LATE MAHARAJAH SIR GODAY NARAYANA GAJAPATHI RAO, K.C.I.E., OF VIZAGAPATAM

The late Maharajah Sir Goday Narayana Gajapathi Rao, K. C. I. E., belonged to one of the most ancient families in Southern India, tracing its origin to Giriraju, a king of the well-known Ekshavaku dynasty of the solar race, and founder of the city of Bhogavathi. Janyaraju, the grandson of Giriraju, was the progenitor of the Goday family, of which the late Maharajah was a lineal descendant.

Goday Bhupathi of the same family is said to have rendered distinguished services to the Nizam's Government, in recognition of which he had large grants of land in Rajahmundry, where he immortalised his name by building two temples. The next in succession was Pedda Surya Rao, who saw active service in the battle-field, and the Nizam of that day presented him with a sword. In the seventeenth century, when the English came into actual possession of the Circars, the representative of the family was Sri Goday Jugga Rao, whose intelligence and high position attracted the attention of Mr. Andrews, the Chief in the service of the Honourable East India Company, who regarded him as one eminently fitted to assist in the conduct of the Company's affairs. The capture of the Fort of Mylavaram by the Company was due to him, and they showed their appreciation and regard by presenting him with a "Shaiban Palkee," an umbrella, and other insignia of royalty.

Sri Goday Jugga Rao was a great promoter of Telugu literature. In various parts of the District his name is perpetuated in the numerous tanks and wells that he excavated or sank. He also founded a chattrum in Benares which is still in existence. In those days he was second to none in point of popularity. He died in 1805 when he was sixty years old, leaving two sons, Suryaprakasa Rao and Surya Narayana Rao, and three daughters.

Sri Surya Prakasa Rao, who was a highly accomplished scholar, had a great taste for Botany and Natural History, and his Horticultural Garden

at Anakapalli, the principal seat of his zamindari, was the outcome of his study of those sciences. He died in 1811, at the age of fifty-three years, and the management of his extensive estate devolved in succession upon his widow, upon her younger surviving daughter, Ratnayamma, and on the death of this noble lady, upon the only surviving son of her uncle, the late Maharajah Sir G. N. Gajapathi Rao, who was the reversionary heir to it. Goday Surya Narayana Rao sent his sons, Venkata Jugga Rao and Narayana Gajapathi Rao, to Madras and Calcutta respectively, for higher education.

On his return to Vizagapatam in 1838, Sri Venkata Jugga Rao built an observatory for himself, and fitted it up with all the necessary instruments and apparatus at an enormous cost, all of them imported from England and the Continent. He was a friend of almost all the European officers throughout the District, and those belonging to the Public Works Department always admired his mathematical talents.

The late Maharajah Sir G. N. Gajapathi Rao, K.C.I.E., was born on the 1st December 1828. As a child he was very delicate in health, and he had his education at home under the fostering care and supervision of his father. Scarcely had young Gajapathi Rao completed his thirteenth year, when his father sent him to Calcutta. The young nobleman joined the Hindu College, presided over by Dr. Richardson, and, after him, by Mr. Kerr, M.A. Dr. Mouat, the great Dwarka Nath Tagore, Rajah Radagant Deb Bahadur, Rajah Satya Churn Ghosal Bahadur, and Rajah Kula Kristna Bahadur,—all these showed great interest in his educational progress. Dr. Wise, the Secretary to the Educational Committee, one day called at his place, and drove him to Government House, where Lord Auckland, the Governor-General, received him kindly, and spoke to him very encouragingly for a long time, adding that he had heard much of the Goday family from Mr. Russell. Sometime afterwards Lord Auckland visited the Hindu College, when he walked up to the class in which young Gajapathi Rao was and enquired after his welfare. Sri Gajapathi Rao regularly attended the "Sans Souci Theatre," which helped him a great deal in the study of Shakespeare. He was present at all public meetings and entertainments Amongst those that made the greatest impression on his youthful mind were the meetings for the Proclamation of the Sikh Gangs in the regime of Lord Hardinge; and also the meetings held in connection with the Scotch and Irish Famines, when he was so much moved by the address of Dr. Carew that he could not rest satisfied until he wrote and obtained from his father a princely donation for the Famine Fund.

After some nine years' stay in Calcutta, Sri Gajapathi Rao

returned to Vizagapatam in April 1849, and joined his brother in the management of the revenue affairs pertaining to their estates. His father passed away in 1853, when he took charge of the zamindari. He headed a movement for promoting female education, which led to the opening of the Vizagapatam Caste Girls' School. There is an adult Caste Girls' School in the same town, called the "Maharani Gajapathi Rao Ladies' Institution." In 1868 he was elected to represent the landed classes in the Madras Legislative Council by His Excellency Lord Napier, and he continued in that office by subsequent re-appointments for sixteen years.

During the famine of 1875 Sri Gajapathi Rao not only treated his own tenants with more than his wonted liberality, but also opened relief houses on his estates, where the poor and the destitute were daily fed. Besides granting donations and paying monthly subscriptions to many charitable and educational institutions of all denominations, he was the donor of several prizes and of the "Carmichael Medal," awarded every year by the Hindu College at Vizagapatam. He founded a Sanskrit prize at the University of Madras, known as the "Godayvari Sanskrit prize." As a member of the Senate he took a deal of interest in educational matters. He and the other members of his family contributed more than half the cost of the erection of the Civil Hospital building at Vizagapatam. The Godayvari Ward in the Monegar Choultry at Madras is another act of his philanthropy.

In 1870 when His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh (the late Duke of Saxe-Coburg) visited India, Sri Gajapathi Rao was invited by Lord Napier to welcome the royal visitor. In response to His Excellency's invitation, he proceeded to Calcutta, and had the honour of a private interview with His Royal Highness at the Government House. Five years later, when His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales (afterwards King Edward VII), arrived in Madras, Sri Gajapathi Rao was accorded the privilege of paying his respects to the future King-Emperor. He was present at the Delhi Assemblage in 1877, when he was the recipient of a medal. In 1881 he went to Calcutta to renew his acquaintances and friendships of former years, when the title of *Rajah* was conferred on him by His Excellency Lord Ripon.

In commemoration of the Golden Jubilee of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, Rajah G. N. Gajapathi Rao presented a statue of Her Majesty to the City of Madras.

In 1891 the Rajah Sahib received from His Holiness Pope Leo XIII, through his Delegate Apostolic in the East Indies, a mosaic picture as a mark of appreciation of the kindness shown by him to the Catholics of Vizagapatam. He was invested by the Right Reverend Dr. Clerc, Bishop of

Vizagapatam, with the Order of the Saint Gregory, one of the most eminent and illustrious orders in Europe, which His Holiness Pope Leo XIII was pleased to send him with his patent of investiture in Latin, which was most eulogistically worded. In 1892 the Rajah Sahib was made a Companion of the Most Eminent *Order of the Indian Empire. In 1894* he presented a building for the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital at Vizagapatam, obtained the special permission of the Queen-Empress to call it after her, and also undertook to pay the Lady Practitioner in charge of the Institution. The title of *Maharajah* was conferred on him in 1898. In 1901 when a movement was set on foot at Calcutta to raise subscriptions for a fitting memorial to Her Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, *Maharajah Gajapathi Rao subscribed the princely sum of a lakh* of rupees towards it.

On the occasion of the Delhi Durbar in 1902, His Imperial Majest- King Edward VII was pleased to confer on Maharajah Gajapathi Rao the distinction of Knight Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire.

The two most unhappy and painful events in his life were the unexpected and untimely widowhood of his elder daughter, H. H. the Ran, Sahiba of Wadhwan, and the premature death of his younger daughter, the Rani of Kurupam. As these afflictions were too great for him to bear, he could not bring his mind to discharge his ordinary duties with his usual energy and diligence, and, therefore, passed his days in complete retirement. *This forced inactivity of the nobleman, always fond of work,* accelerated his death, and the sad event took place in May 1903.

His wife, the late Maharani, was recognised as a type of true womanhood, and during the time the Maharajah was in isolation, she helped him in managing the affairs of his vast and extensive estates. As an accomplished scholar in English and in Telugu, the Maharani experienced no difficulty in conducting the estate business, and respected the wishes of her self-exiled husband in all matters of *importance.* She gave prizes in her name to the successful students of the Chengalrao Peta Girls' School, Waltair Girls' School in the Vizagapatam Fort, the London Mission High School, and also the Roman Catholic Boys' and Girls' Schools.

On the 20th February 1905, His Excellency Lord Ampthill, Governor of Madras, visited the site of the Maharani Gajapathi Rao's Medical School and laid the foundation stone of the building intended for its habitation. On the 13th December 1908, she presided over the *Bharatha Mahila Parishad* held at the Victoria Public Hall, Madras, when she delivered a very thoughtful and inspiring address. After a brief illness this philanthropic and generous-hearted lady passed away, universally regretted in the middle of 1912.



SIR GHULAM MUHAMMAD ALI KHAN BAHADUR, K.C.I.E.,
PRINCE OF ARCOT

SIR GHULAM MUHAMMAD ALI KHAN BAHADUR, K. C. I. E., PRINCE OF ARCOT

The Princes of Arcot trace their descent from Caliph Omar, the world-renowned Mahomedan Emperor, and the second successor of the great Prophet Mahomed. The present Prince is the thirty-fifth in lineal descent from him. Some of his ancestors were Kings of Kabul, and several of them belonged to the Abbaside dynasty which ruled Persia with conspicuous ability. After their advent to India they occupied high positions in the court of the Moghul Emperors, Shah Jahan and Aurangzeb in succession.

Anwarudeen Khan, in whose line of succession the present Prince of Arcot is, was the Eminus Sultanat (the right hand man) of Nizam-ul-Mulk, the founder of the present Hyderabad State. He was appointed by the Nizam as his Viceroy in the Carnatic on the 28th March 1744 A. D., and thus became the founder of the House of Arcot. The pedigree of the illustrious Arcot family is given below:—(1) His Excellency Anwarudeen Khan (1744-49); (2) his son, H. H. the Nawab Mahomed Ali Khan Bahadur, styled Wallajah, Nawab of the Carnatic, (1749-95);(3) his son, H.H. the Nawab Umdatul Omara (Sovereign Ruler of the Carnatic), 1795-1801;(4) his nephew, H. H. the Nawab Azimuddowlah Bahadur (First Titular Nawab of the Carnatic), 1801-19; (5) his son, H. H. the Nawab Azam Jah Bahadur (Second Titular Nawab of the Carnatic), 1819-25; (6) Regency of H. H. the Nawab Azeemjah, 1825-1842; (7) H.H. the Nawab Ghulam Mahomed Ghouse Khan Bahadur (Last Titular Nawab of the Carnatic), nephew of Nawab Azimjah, 1842-55; (8) H. H. the Prince Azim Jah Bahadur (First Prince of Arcot), 1868-74; (9) his son, H. H. the Prince Zahiruddowlah Bahadur G. C. S. I., 1874-79; (10) his brother, H. H. the Prince Intizam-ul-Mulk Bahadur, 1879-89; (11); his nephew, Prince Sir Mahomed Munawar Khan Bahadur, K. C. I. E., 1889-1903; and (12) his son, Prince Sir Ghulam Muhammad Ali Khan Bahadur, K.C.I.E., 1903.

Anwaruddin Khan was succeeded by his son, Nawab Mahomed

Ali Khan Wallajah. In 1765 the Emperor of Delhi created him an independent Ruler of the Carnatic like the Nizam of Hyderabad. The Treaty of Paris of 1763 also acknowledged him to be an independent Ruler and Ally of the King of England. In 1770 Admiral Sir John Lindsay arrived as the King's minister to the Court of Nawab Wallajah. Sir John Lindsay was succeeded by Sir Robert Haarland. Wallajah was twice called on by the King of England to perform the function of the investiture with the Insignia of the Order of the Bath, namely, in the case of Sir John Lindsay in 1771 and that of Sir Hector Munro in 1779, which he did in the Chepauk Palace, his residence then. The following letter was addressed to Nawab Anwaruddin by His Majesty King George III of England :—

George the Third, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Christian Faith, Duke of Brunswick and Lunenburgh, Arch Treasurer and Prince Elector of the Holy Roman Empire and Sovereign of the Seas, etc.

To—Nabob Umdatul Mulk Serajud Dowlah Anwaruddin Khan Bahadur Delar Jung, Nabob of Arcot and the Carnatic.
Greeting.

The invariable friendship and good understanding which had long subsisted between us, and which we are desirous on our part to promote and improve on every occasion, thoroughly persuaded of your corresponding with us in the same sentiments has induced us to write to you on a subject which we flatter ourselves will not only be pleasing to you, from the affection you bear towards us, but will be advantageous to your affairs and to the public peace and tranquillity in your parts, as it will testify to the world our esteem and regard for you, and the good correspondence which we wish to cultivate.

Having thought proper to bestow a high mark of our approbation on two of our subjects whose conduct we hope will have rendered them worthy of your esteem, we cannot add to the dignity of conferring those honours on them more than by desiring you will represent our person upon this solemn occasion, and that you will perform those functions for us which we always perform ourself when the circumstances will admit, our intention being to confer the Order of the Bath, one of our most honourable marks of distinction, on our trusty and well-beloved Sir John Lindsay, Knight Commander-in-Chief of our Ships and Vessels in the East Indies and of the Marine Force of our United Company of merchants trading to and in those parts ; and on our trusty and well-beloved Eyre Coote Esquire, Major-General of our Forces in the East Indies, and Commander-in-Chief of all the said Company's military Force there, we have directed the said Sir John Lindsay to deliver to you the letter with the ensigns of the Order, and to learn from you the time when it may be most agreeable to perform this ceremony as well as to make known to you the nature and manner of bestowing these honours upon him and the said Eyre Coote. And so repeating our

wishes for your felicity, we bid you hearty farewell. Given at our Court at Saint James's the twenty-seventh day of June 1770 in the tenth year of our Reign,

Your affectionate friend, (Signed) GEORGE R.

(Signed) WEYMOUTH.

It was Nawab Wallajah that upheld the British arms against the French and struggled against many odds and was instrumental in permanently establishing the English Empire in India. The intimacy of the relations that existed between the English and the Nawab is evident from the fact that when Major-General Sir Stringer Lawrence retired in 1766 the Nawab granted him an annuity of 3,750 pagodas, while the Directors granted him 500 Pounds per annum. The Nawabs of the Carnatic received not less than sixty-seven letters from King George III, and many from the Queen Consort. He was the first and the most faithful ally of the British. The then Rajahs of Tanjore, Travancore, and Pudukkottai were his vassals. Almost all the Zamindars of this Presidency owe their present position to the generosity of the Nawab and still bear Titles conferred by him. In 1795 he died at the age of seventy-eight when the *Madras Gazette*, 17th October 1795, pronounced the following eulogium :—

His Highness the Nawab Wallajah was the firm and sincere friend and the faithful and zealous ally of the English nation, to which he was strongly attached by esteem and affection. He shared in all the fortunes of the English in this country, and always considered their interest and his own as one and the same ; he was mild and affectionate towards his subjects,............ ....polite and amiable in his manners ;.............................and no man better understood the art of conciliating men's minds than His Highness.

He was buried at Saint Thome, but two years later his remains were conveyed to Trichinopoly. Lord Clive said of him that his word was more trustworthy than that of any Mahomedan he had ever known. Nawab Wallajah was succeeded by his son, Omdatul Omara, who passed away in 1801.

For some reason or other it was found expedient to annex the Carnatic. In virtue of the treaty of 1801, the great-grandfather of the present Prince of Arcot, Nawab Azimud Dowlah Bahadur gladly handed over the civil and military administration of the Carnatic to the British Government, and he was installed the Sovereign Prince of the Carnatic, and was allowed one-fifth of its revenues which amounted to twelve lakhs per annum.

Nawab Azimud Dowlah Bahadur enjoyed the privilege of a salute of twenty-one guns. On his death, his son, Nawab Azam Jah, succeeded him in 1819, and after him came his son, Nawab Ghulam Mahomed Ghouse Khan Bahadur. During his minority, Nawab Azeem Jah, his uncle,

was appointed Regent. In 1855 Nawab Ghulam Mahomed Ghouse Khan Bahadur died without issue, and in virtue of Lord Dalhousie's "Doctrine of Lapse", the *musnad* of the Carnatic was abolished. He was the last Nawab of the Carnatic who enjoyed all the privileges appertaining to a ruling Sovereign Prince and had a salute of twenty-one guns, and was entitled to bestow Indian titles, which have subsequently been recognised by the British Government. There is one old man still living who holds the title of *Khan Bahadur* conferred by him. The Maharajahs of Travancore used to pay him quinquennial tribute. Prince Azeem Jah Bahadur, the great-grandfather of the present Prince of Arcot, claimed the *musnad* of his nephew, and contested in the House of Commons for many years. On more than one occasion his claim received as many as four-fifths of the votes of the opposition in the House. On his side were very notable persons, John Bright and Lord Derby being amongst them. His financial resources having failed and himself having become old and infirm and unable to venture a trip to England to appear in person, he was obliged to accept Lord Napier's proposals to create him Prince of Arcot in 1867. Lord Napier at the installation ceremony observed :—

In conferring this dignity upon Your Highness, Her Majesty the Queen has borne in mind the ties which have united the fortunes of your family with the growth and ascendancy of British power in the south of India. The name which your posterity will bear will serve to recall and commemorate the days when your ancestors and our predecessors cemented their alliance in triumphs over a common adversary. But Her Majesty the Queen blends with the memory of the past a gracious solicitude for the present and the future. Her Majesty desires to mark the esteem in which she holds Your Highness personally as the representative of an ancient, friendly and loyal House. She desires to perpetuate her favour in your descendants and to continue to them in new forms of honour and with new guarantees of welfare the means of serving their sovereign and their country. We are happy to see Your Highness surrounded by two generations of your offspring who will convey to after times the recollection of this auspicious day. Your Highness will know how to impress on them the duty of bearing themselves wisely and usefully in the high station in which they have now been confirmed.

After his death, the second Prince had the honour of fifteen guns, which was also enjoyed by the third Prince. The second Prince was created a G. C. S. I. in 1877. The fourth Prince, the father of the present Prince of Arcot, died in 1903 at Delhi whither he had gone to attend the Coronation Durbar. The first three Princes of Arcot were exempt from personal attendance in Civil Courts, enjoyed the title of *His Highness* and a salute of fifteen guns, and were treated as Ruling Chiefs.

The present Prince of Arcot, Sir Ghulam Muhammad Ali Khan

Bahadur, K. C. I. E., was born in 1882. He received his early secular and religious education at home, and later learned English under Messrs C. Morrison M. A., LL. B., and C. H. Payne, M. A. In 1903 he succeeded to the *musnad* according to the terms of the Letters Patent issued by Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen-Empress Victoria. He received the title of *Khan Bahadur* in 1897 and was created a K. C. I. E. in 1909. The following year the Mahomedan electorate of the Presidency elected him a member of the Imperial Legislative Council, and a better selection they could not have made; for during his term in that august body his modesty was very conspicuous, and the simple commonsense of his speeches was highly appreciated. He holds the most responsible position of President of the Madras Presidency Muslim League. He presided over the All-India Moslem League held at Delhi in 1910, and was present at the Allahabad Hindu-Mahomedan Conference of 1911. When the Royal Proclamation was celebrated in Madras, the Prince enhanced its success by his active participation in it; and with the object of diffusing the spirit of loyalty to the masses, he had the famous proclamation and messages printed at his own cost, in English, Tamil, Telugu, and Hindustani, and got them distributed all over the Presidency. He enjoys the unique honour of being the Premier Nobleman and the recognised chief of the Mahomedan community of South India. He is entitled to an annual visit to and from His Excellency the Governor of Madras. In virtue of the personal salute of *fifteen guns* and the title of *His Highness* enjoyed by the first, second, and third Princes, the present Prince is allowed to have an escort of troopers and maintain an infantry guard. He possesses three guns to fire salutes on all important occasions, as the Prophet's Birth Day, Id-e'-Ramzan, Id-e'-Bakreed, his own birth day, and on occasions of formal return visits of H. E. the Governor of Madras, Members of Council, and Ruling Chiefs.

The full titles of the Prince are—Nawab Azim Jah, Umdat-ul-Umra Amir-ul-Umra, Siraj-ul-Umra Madar-ul-Mulk, Umdat-ul-Mulk Azim-ud-Daulah Asad-ud-Daulah-ul-Ingliz, Sir Ghulam Muhammad Ali Khan Bahadur K. C. I. E. Zulfikar Jung Sipah Salar, Amir-i-Arcot.

If we may be permitted without offence to look behind the curtain which hides his private life from the world, we shall find that he is of a most genial disposition, unostentatious, and courteous. He maintains his religious convictions without bigotry and without intolerance. He is a Prince whose heart always beats warmly on the side of order and loyalty; and his quiet, unobtrusive, and conscientious labours in the service of his country will be remembered by Hindus and Mahomedans alike with respect and approval.

RAJAH MUHAMMAD AZAM SHAH SAHIB OF THE SANSTHANICK ESTATE

The Sansthanick estate in Nagpur, Central Provinces, consists of forty-nine villages possessing the best soil in the country, with a total income of Rs. 82,000 a year, and covering an area of 64,402 acres, extending over the three adjoining districts of Nagpur, Bhandara, and Chindwara. The landed property is all ancestral, except two villages which were recently purchased.

The Rajah is descended of the family from the old Gond rulers of the country, known in history as the "Deogarh Dynasty," which seems to have succeeded the old Gaoli Kings. The founder of the dynasty was the semi-mythical Gond hero, Jatba, born of a virgin under a bean plant and protected by a cobra spreading its hood over him during the heat of the day, when his mother left him to look after her work. When he grew up, he took service under the Gaoli Kings, Ransur and Gansur, having proved his strength by performing the feat of lifting off its hinges, with his hands, of the large gate of the castle. He was ordered to slaughter a buffalo at the next Divali festival, but was distressed as to how to accomplish it, armed as he was with none other than a wooden cudgel. The goddess, Devi, however, appeared to him in a dream and told him that, when the moment came, his stick would change into a sword of the finest temper, and that, after slaughtering the buffalo, he should jump on to the royal elephant, kill the kings, and establish himself in their stead. All this came to pass as the goddess directed.

The third or fourth in descent from Jatba was Bakht Buland, who reigned in 1700. He went to Delhi and entered the service of Aurangzeb. He performed some signal exploits and gained the favour of the Emperor, who induced him to abandon the rites of Bhimsen and adopt the Muhammadan faith. On complying with it, he was acknowledged Rajah of Deogarh under the name of Bakht-Buland. It is said of him "He employed indiscriminately Musalmans and Hindus of ability to introduce

order and regularity into his immediate domains. Industrious settlers from all quarters were attracted to Gondwana, many thousands of villages were founded, and agriculture, manufactures, and even commerce made considerable advances. It may, with truth, be said that much of the success of the Mahratta administration was due to the ground work laid by him. The modern city of Nagpur was founded by him on the site of some hamlets, known as Rajpur Barsa.

Bakht Buland was succeeded by Chand Sultan, who greatly improved the city of Nagpur and added considerably to the wealth of the country. Chand Sultan died in 1739, when a series of dynastic squabbles followed among the different members of the family; and Raghoji Bhonsla of Berar, who had sided with one party, was at last tempted to stay at Nagpur, proclaimed himself protector, but studiously preserved the dignity of the Gond family. The Mahratta rulers continued to pay all honours due to a ruling chief to every representative of the family in succession, and always paid to him a fixed share of the revenue of the kingdom. He bore the title of *Rajah*, and the Mahrattas ruled in the name of the Gond prince.

The British Government, when it succeeded the Mahratta Raj, maintained the dignity of the Gond family as it had been under the Mahrattas, but in place of the fixed share of the revenue, settled a pension of one *lakh* of rupees per year for Rajah Suleman Shah, and his successor. The present Rajah is granted an annuity of Rs. 50,000 which, added to the income from the villages of the Sansthanick estates, makes a total of Rs. 1,32,000 a year.

Rajah Muhammad Azam Shah Sahib was born on the 13th September 1884, and was adopted when he was but eight months old by his maternal grandfather, the late Rajah Muhammad Suleman Shah Sahib. The adoptive as well as the natural father died soon after the adoption, and the estate was consequently taken over by Government and placed under the Court of Wards in May 1885. The minor Rajah was brought up under the supervision of officers appointed by Government, and received his primary education at the local Convent School, which he joined as a child of three years. In his tenth year, he was sent to the Rajkumar College, Raipur, where he continued his studies till 1901. While there, he distinguished himself in manly games, particularly in riding, for excellence in which he won a medal. He took a keen interest in polo and shooting. On his return from Raipur, he attended the Agricultural School at Nagpur for about a year, and in 1902 he joined the M. A. O. College, Aligarh, where he received liberal education for five years. During this time he distinguished himself particularly at polo, of which he has always been an enthusiast. He left the College in 1905, and on the 16th October of the

same year, the Court of Wards transferred the management of the estate to him. He was married in February 1901, but the Rani having died at child birth within a year of the marriage, he married again in June 1901.

The Rajah maintains sixty-two servants on his private establishment, besides those employed in the management of the estate, and gives sixty-six persons gratuitous pensions varying in amount and making a total of Rs. 22,000 a year. Many a charitable institution of the city receives liberal support from the estate. The Rajah is a kind-hearted young man of amiable disposition, possessing a generous nature, and is very popular among all classes of people. He was unanimously elected President of the Provincial Muslim League and of the Provincial Committee for the collection of funds for the Moslem University, and is called on to preside at every important public meeting of the Muhammadans of the city. The Rajah is exempt from the restrictions of the Arms Act and also from attendance in Civil Courts. He was granted medals at the Delhi Durbars of 1903 and 1911. He has travelled all over India and is anxious to visit foreign countries soon.

NAWAB FATEH ALI KHAN QIZILBASH, C.I.E., OF LAHORE

Nawab Fateh Ali Khan Qizilbash, C.I.E., one of the premier noblemen of the Punjab, belongs to a well-known family of military men, distinguished for their prowess and heroism in many a war, and for their loyal and faithful service to the British Government during the Afghan wars and at the time of the great Mutiny. He is a lineal descendant of Sardar Ali Khan, a Chief in the province of Sherwan on the Caspian Coast, who took service under Nadir Shah and accompanied him to India in 1738. After Nadir Shah's return, he became the Governor of Qandahar. When Nadir Shah was assassinated and Ahmed Shah Durrani rose to power, Ali Khan obtained the District of Hazra, near Qandahar, and settled there as a powerful Chief. He went with Ahmed Shah to India in 1760, and had his full share in the honours of the third battle of Panipet, which once for all broke up the Mahratta power in India. When he returned home, Ahmed Shah grew jealous of Ali Khan and tried to deprive him of his power and estates. This he was able to effect only by getting Ali Khan assassinated in 1770. This horrible deed greatly reduced the influence of the Qizilbash family in Afghanistan. The principality became divided into a number of chiefships, and they were only held together by the feeble bond of hatred of Timur Shah, the successor of Ahmed Shah. When, however, the sons of Ali Khan grew up and came of age, they recovered most of the family estates and became reconciled to Timur Shah, who invited the eldest of them, Gul Mahomed Khan, to Qandahar and conferred on him the title of *Sardar*. His brothers, Hidayat Khan and Ali Mahomed Khan, also distinguished themselves in all the wars of the times, and added to the prestige and wealth of the family. Hidayat Khan was with Shah Zeman at Lahore in 1797, and, returning to Cabul, he got for himself the estates of Asad Khan, the brother of Dost Mahommad, in return for his own. The third brother, Ali Mahommad Khan, in conjunction with Vazir Fateh Khan, invaded Kashmir, and after an adventurous career for eight years in those parts, returned to the family and settled with Hidayat Khan. Of his two sons, the elder died without an heir, and the younger,

Ali Jan Khan, succeeded to his father's share in the family estates, which are still in the possession of his descendants in Cabul. Hidayat Khan, the second son of Sardar Ali Khan, was the great-grandfather of the subject of this memoir, and he had six sons. The first three distinguished themselves in the service of the Afghan rulers, in many military campaigns and exploits. The fourth and the most talented of them, Ali Raza Khan, was in Cabul at the time of the Afghan Campaign during Lord Auckland's Viceroyalty. He was of immense service to the British, for the Qizilbash is a powerful and influential clan in Cabul numbering about ten thousand, and but for the timely help of Ali Raza Khan, who wielded a mighty influence, the English would have fared much worse in the campaign. Qizilbash, it may be noted, is a title of Turkish derivation, meaning red-head; and the name originated with Shah Ismail Safavi, founder of a line of kings, who ruled in Persia about the sixteenth century, and who commanded his soldiers to wear a red cap, and a turban round it of twelve folds in honour and in remembrance of the twelve Imams, the successors of Ali, from whom he professed to have descended. Ali Raza Khan spent large sums of money from his own private sources in helping the English cause, often bribing the officers of the Amir to be kind and helpful to the British prisoners. After the close of the war, he accompanied the British troops to India and settled down in Lahore, as it was no longer safe for him to remain in Cabul. His Cabul estates were confiscated by the Amir who razed his house in that City to the ground, and built, with the materials, two houses for his own use. This was the penalty he had to pay for his loyalty and devotion to the British interests all through the Afghan wars in the early forties of the last century. After their settlement in India, the family was equally conspicuous for its allegiance and service. Ali Raza Khan himself and his brothers were with the British in the fields of Mudki, Feroze Shah, and Subraon. He was with Major Lawrence in Kangra and in Kashmir in 1846, and his nephew, Sher Mahomed, at the head of one hundred horse, was most useful during the rebellion of 1848-49. When the great Mutiny broke out, Ali Raza Khan looked after the British at Lahore, and sent his brothers, Mahomed Raza Khan and Mahomed Taki Khan, with large troops of horse, specially raised by himself for the purpose, at his own cost. All the family resources were exhausted in equipping these troops, and every able-bodied member of the family took part in it. Among these were five of his nephews. Ali Raza Khan's troops formed part of the famous Hodson's Horse, and they rendered gallant service in every field. His last brother, Taki Khan, died at Kasimganj fighting bravely in the British cause. Another brother, Mahomed Raza Khan, was twice

wounded at Malu and Shamsbad, and had two horses shot under him. He was one of the bravest in the army, and was ever ready to rush into the thick of the fight. After the campaign, he received the title of *Sardar Bahadur*, with the first-class Order of Merit, and a pension of Rs. 200 per mensem, in perpetuity.

Ever since his return from Cabul, Ali Raza Khan himself was getting a monthly pension of Rs. 800. After the Mutiny, he received a talukdari of 147 villages in Bahraich (Oudh), yielding about half a lakh per annum. He was made a *Khan Bahadur*, while his nephews, who too distinguished themselves in the Mutiny, received the title of *Sardar Bahadur*. Two years after, the hereditary distinction of *Nawab* was conferred on him. The Nawab passed away in 1866, full of years and honours.

The title of Nawab descended to his eldest son, Nawazish Ali Khan, who had won great reputation in his service under Major Lawrence, when the Sikh troops mutinied. His third son, Nasir Ali, the father of Nawab Fateh Ali Khan, managed the Oudh estate, and held the honorary rank of an Assistant Commissioner.

Nawab Nawazish Ali Khan closely followed in the footsteps of his father, and his name stood high in the list of the Punjab nobles for honour and integrity. He was the President of the Lahore Municipal Committee for three years. He was made a C.I.E., in 1885, and three years later was dubbed a *Knight*. In 1887 he was nominated an additional Member of the Punjab Legislative Council; and in the year preceding it, he had the proprietary rights in Rakh Taliana, Lahore, conferred on him. On his death in 1890, his brother, Nasir Ali Khan, inherited the title of *Nawab* as the eldest member of the family. Prior to this, Nasir Ali Khan had served the British Government for twenty years as an officer in the Punjab Provincial Civil Service. He passed away in 1896, and was succeeded by Nawab Fateh Ali Khan, the present head of the family.

Nawab Fateh Ali Khan was born on the 15th October 1862. He became a member of the Punjab Legislative Council in 1897. He is a prominent figure in the public life of the Province of Five Waters. He always exerts his great influence in bringing about unity and harmony among the different sections of the people there. In 1897, mainly through his exertions, the strained religious feelings between the Mahomedans and the Sikhs were greatly softened. He headed the Mahomedan deputation that waited on the Viceroy at Simla, to present a congratulatory address on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria the Good. He represented the Province at the Famine Conference at Calcutta. During the Chitral campaign he was most useful to the Supreme Government, and his services and those of the other members of his clan were always

at its disposal. The right of private entry at Viceregal levees was conferred on him in 1900. He went to England in 1902 in order to be present at the Coronation ceremony of His Imperial Majesty King Edward VII. At the Delhi Durbar of 1903, he was one of the guests invited, and it was on this occasion that he was invested with the Order of the Companion of the Indian Empire. In the following year he became a member of the Imperial Legislative Council. When the Amir of Afghanistan visited India in 1907, he was present as a guest at the reception given to His Majesty at Agra. During the days of the recent unrest again, the Nawab's influence in promoting a spirit of loyalty among the Punjab Mahomedans was most timely and useful. As His Honour Sir Louis Dane observed in his reply to an address presented by the Punjab Chiefs' Association in 1909, "Nawab Fateh Ali Khan Qizilbash is a leading representative of the strong western Mahomedan influence in the Province, and is himself a prominent landowner and citizen of Lahore."

He is the President of the Punjab Chiefs' Association and of the Punjab Moslem League, and the Life President of the local Anjuman-i-Islamia and the Himayat-i-Islam and is the patron of the Punjab Moslem Club. The other members of this distinguished family also hold high places in the public life of the Province. Mahomed Ali Khan, son of Nawab Nasir Ali Khan, is an Honorary Magistrate and Vice-President of the Lahore Municipality. Sardar Raza Ali Khan, son of Sardar Bahadur Mahomed Raza Khan, gets a family pension of Rs. 200 per mensem. He was an extra Assistant Commissioner for many years, and accompanied Sir Lepel Griffin as a member of his political staff to Cabul in 1880. He is a Commissioner of the Lahore Municipality. In 1908 he received a Kaisar-i-Hind medal of the second class. Another member of the family, Ali Hussain Ali Khan, is a Barrister-at-Law, and an extra Assistant Commissioner.

Thus the Honourable Nawab Fateh Ali Khan Qizilbash, C.I.E., is a member of an influential family, which has deserved well of the British Government. His grandfather, Ali Raza Khan, was not by birth a British subject, but, as a writer justly observes, "it would be difficult throughout Hindustan to find a family, however, bound to the English Government by gratitude or duty, which has, for its sake, risked so nobly and disinterestedly life and everything that could make life desirable. As long as the first Cabul campaign which was most disastrous to the British arms is remembered, as long as the sorrows and the glories of 1857 are household words among us—so long will the name of Ali Raza Khan and his gallant family be gratefully remembered by all true Englishmen and held in great esteem".

NAWAB SAHIB MIR MOINUDIN HUSSAINKHAN SAHIB OF BARODA

The Nawab's family claims descent from Hussain, the son of Alli. They left Arabia for Herat in the year 1500, and a century later they migrated to India under Sayad Abdula. The fifth in descent from him was Mir Nurudin Hussainkhan, the founder of the family of the Nawab. He was dignified with the title of *Nawab Bahadur* by the British. He helped the English in making peace with the Indian Princes and got many gifts from them as well as from the British Government for his peace policy. The British Government, as a mark of honour, has kept his full size portrait in the Residency of Baroda. He died leaving seven sons, the fourth of whom, Kamaludin Hussainkhan, commenced his career as a Military Commandant at Nagpur. He also rendered help to the English in maintaining a friendly alliance with the Gaekwar, for which he was rewarded by the Government. He had three sons, the first of whom passed away very shortly, and the second son, Hisamudin, in 1854. Among the four sons of the latter, Kamaludinkhan was the eldest and the predecessor of the present Nawab Sahib, who forms the subject of this sketch. The late Nawab Kamaludinkhan was born in Baroda. He received from the Baroda Durbar Rs. 36,000 per annum, for his expense and another sum of Rs.1,000 as Nawab. The document made with the British says, "The verbal promise which the British have passed for the protection of the Nawab's family will be strictly observed. The present conduct of the Gaekwar towards the Nawab compels the Government to take him under their protection." He was also rewarded with a medal. The Nawab died in Baroda in 1885. His brother, Mir Nurudin Hussain Khan, succeeded him and got all the titles and honours claimed by the late Nawab. Mir Moinudin Hussainkhan, the son of Mir Nurudin Hussain Khan, is of a jovial, affable, and zealous disposition. He is well-versed in both Persian and Urdu languages, and possesses a fair knowledge of English, Gujrati and Marathi. He married a noble lady of high family named Roshanjahan Begum Sahiba, the daughter of the late Nawab of Bella. He was rewarded by the British Government with a silver medal during the celebration of the coronation at Delhi in 1903. He is fond of hunting and other games. The Nawab Sahib is blessed with two sons and three daughters. The elder son is Mir Hisamudinkhan, and the second, Mir Nurudinkhan. The Nawab Sahib is independent of the jurisdiction of the Baroda Court, and is exempted from personal appearance in any British Civil Court.

THE HONOURABLE NAWAB ASADULLAHKHAN, KHAN BAHADUR OF MEERUT (U. P.)

The Honourable Nawab Asadullahkhan, Khan Bahadur of Meerut, is a direct descendant of Hazrat Zuber, one of the earliest followers of the Prophet Muhammad. His son, Abdullah, was among the first promulgators of Islam in Northern Arabia and Persia. As Islam progressed, Abdulla-bin-Zuber's sons moved eastwards, and eventually came down to India with Mahmud of Ghazni. During the early Mahomedan period the fortunes of the family were subject to many vicissitudes, owing to the rise and fall of different dynasties of Mahomedan Kings, but under the Moghul Emperors several members of the family held very high positions. During the time of Akbar the Great, Nawab Nizam Uddin Khan, better known as Nawab Shahbazkhan, was Governor of Bengal. Abul Fazl testifies to the high position held by him.

His brother, Nawab Dadankhan, was Governor of Peshawar and Lahore. He founded a town near Lahore still known as Pind Dadankhan. His grandson, Nawab Mohabat Khan, succeeded him to the Governorship of Peshwar, where he built a grand mosque of red stone which has withstood the ravages of time and is still in good condition. His son, Nawab Mahomed Khan or Khair Andesh Khan (who flourished during the reigns of Shah Jahan and Aurangzeb), was the most illustrious member of the family. He built a fort in Meerut, the gate of which, called Khairnager Darwaza, still commemorates his name. He also built in 1690 a fine mosque called "Khairul Masajid wal Muabid" in the heart of Meerut city, and founded Khairandeshpur in Etawah. Several other Mahallas in Etawah and Delhi are named after him. He was at different times Governor of Katehr, Behar, Etawah, Bengal and other provinces. In a letter in Ruqate Aalamgiri Aurangzeb speaks very highly of his qualifications and capabilities.

His grandson, Nawab Mahomed Masih Khan, showing great valour at the age of twelve in defeating and capturing Rajah Sather Sal

Bundela, was made a Yekhazari (commander of 1000 men) and succeeded his grandfather to the Governorship of Etawah under the title of Khairandesh Khan II. He built a *Seeshmahal* in the fort at Meerut. He was succeeded by his son, Nawab Khairiyat Andesh Khan, Governor of Kashmir. He built the Kashmiri Bazaar. He was followed by Nawab Afiyat Andesh Khan, Deputy Governor of Etawah. He built the Jumma Masjid of Etawah and Katra Shewakali. His son, Nawab Farhat Andesh Khan, was a minor during the anarchical times before the British took possession of those Provinces and consequently lost all his jaghir and landed property. He served the British Government in the Gurkha war under General Gillespi. His son, Nawab Mubarak Ali Khan, was for some time Mir Munshi to Lord Auckland, Governor-General of India. After the Mutiny he retired from Government service and was made an Honorary Magistrate of Meerut. He died in 1876.

His son, Nawab Ahmadullah Khan, served the British Government for twenty-eight years in the Customs Department and retired on pension in 1877, having distinguished himself by his fidelity during the Mutiny when he was wounded and twice waylaid by the rebels. He received the title of 'Nawab' on the 26th February 1885. He was an Honorary Magistrate of the first class and Vice-President of the Meerut Municipal and District Boards, in which capacities he cut a great figure by his public spirit.

His son, the Honourable Nawab Assadullahkhan, Khan Bahadur, the present representative of the family, has been serving as an Honorary Magistrate and Vice-Chairman of the District and Municipal Boards of Meerut for the last twenty-two years. The title of *Khan Bahadur* was conferred on him in 1888 for his services in the Salt Department, and that of *Nawab* in 1895. In recognition of his good services in the cause of Local Self-Government, he received certificates of honour from Queen Victoria in 1897, from King Edward VII in 1903, and from King George V in 1911. The second he had the honour of receiving from the hands of the Duke of Connaught. He received two medals at the Delhi Durbars of 1903 and 1911 which he attended as a Government guest. He has lately been elevated by election to a seat on the Legislative Council of the United Provinces. Like his forefathers he is a great Hakim, and hundreds of poor people go to him every morning. He takes great pleasure in attending to them and distributes medicine gratis. His only son, Mr. Sadullah Khan, is a Tahsildar in Agra.

His younger brother, Mr. Islam Ullahkhan, was a Superintendent of Police in the United Provinces. He entered Government service as an Assistant Superintendent of Police in 1880, and as he worked with zeal and ability, he was made a permanent Superintendent in 1886. It need hardly be mentioned that he was the only Indian Superintendent of Police in those Provinces. During the whole of his service of thirty-one years he was known as an efficient Police Officer, distinguished especially for his tact in controlling his staff and getting work out of them; and he always enjoyed the high opinion of his superior officers. Amongst his subordinates he was so popular that they loved him well. Wherever he was stationed, he kept peace and order, not so much by his Police Force as by his personal influence and amiable character. He is a good sportsman, having shot a number of tigers and almost every kind of wild game. His son, Mr. Islam Ahmadkhan, B. A., (Aligarh), is Deputy Superintendent of Police in Bulandshahr, and of his other sons, Mr. Islam Nabikhan, B.A., (Aligarh), is a Deputy Collector,and Mr. Islam Hamidkhan a Tahsildar in the United Provinces. Nawab Asadullahkhan's younger brother, Mr. Saifullahkhan, Khan Sahib, is Deputy Collector at Bijnor. For meritorious services in Cawnpore he received the title of *Khan Saheb*. Nawab Asadullahkhan's youngest brother, Mr. Amirullahkhan, is Secretary to the Hapur Municipality.

NAWAB HAJI SAYED BADSHAH NAWAB RAZVI OF PATNA

Nawab Haji Syed Badshah Nawab Razvi of Patna City, in Bengal, who is also known by the name of Syed Mohummad Madhi Hassun Khan, Banker and Zamindar, was born on the 30th July 1858 (18th Zilhijja 1274 A. H.). He received his education under private tuition, as well as in the Government College, Patna. He is a descendant of the illustrious Syed Hassun, who came to India with the army of Nadir Shah, the Persian conqueror. General Syed Hassun, at the express wish of the king of Delhi, left his promising young grandson, Syed Razi, in India with that monarch. General Syed Hassun returned to Persia with the army accompanied by his son, Syed Mohummud Ali. Syed Murtaza, the son of Syed Razi, received the title of *Khan Bahadur* from the king of Delhi. Syed Abdullah, the next representative of the family, was indifferent to titles; but his two sons, Syed Mahdi Ali Khan and Syed Mohammud Ali Khan, obtained advancement, and were honoured with the title of *Khan Bahadur*. The fourth son of Syed Abdullah, Syed Lutf Ali Khan, distinguished himself in the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, Empress of India, and was created a Companion of the Order of the Indian Empire. Further honours were in store for him on the occasion of the Jubilee of the Queen-Empress in 1887, when, for faithful services rendered to the Government of India, he was invested with the title of *Nawab* by His Excellency the Viceroy, Lord Dufferin. The name of Nawab Syed Lutf Ali Khan is held in high respect in Behar, where his memory is honoured by his countrymen as the generous donor of a lakh and ten thousand rupees, with which was laid the foundation of the technical institute, now known as the Behar School of Engineering. A portrait of this illustrious gentleman now adorns the hall of the Engineering School, which was unveiled by the late Sir John Woodburn, then Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

The subject of the present sketch, Syed Badshah Nawab Razvi, generally known as the Nawab of Patna, is most loyal to the

British Government. On his mother's side he is a descendant of two illustrious families. His mother, on the maternal side, came of the family of Haji Mohamad Ismail who, migrating into India married the daughter of the Nawab of Bengal, and was subsequently martyred at Bussora while on a pilgrimage to Karballa. Thus he is connected with the famous ancestor Mullah Ahmad Mazindarani. On the father's side, she was the grand-daughter of Syed Ali Khan Bahadur, who was the son of Syed Abdullah Sahib Razvi. Syed Badshah Nawab Razvi is the proprietor of extensive zamindaries in the Patna and Bhagalpore Divisions, yielding an annual revenue of over a lakh and a quarter of rupees. By his wealth and position he is well-fitted to serve both the Government and his country. His interest in public affairs has always been very great, and his subscriptions for the cause of education, medical service, and charity have been continuous and on a handsome scale. In the interest of his Mussulman co-religionists the Nawab has appointed a permanent staff, with assistants, for the proper and decent interment of the remains of any of the Moslems whose friends are not able to perform the ceremony at their own cost. The Nawab has as yet no issue, either male or female, to succeed him. It was his intention to make a permanent endowment of landed property to the value of Rs. 16,000 per annum, the revenue of which was to be expended for religious purposes and for the aid of widows, orphans, and others who are helpless and needy among the members of his faith. But as the Government declined to accept the management of a religious endowment, in accordance with the provisions of the "Charitable Endowment Act," the Nawab had to change the object of his endowment and devoted it to the cause of education. Accordingly he made a permanent endowment, in the year 1909, of landed property yielding an annual net income of rupees eight thousand for female education in Behar, upon a truly purda system. This gave rise to the establishment of the present female college at Pathrighat in Patna City, which is named after him as "Nawab Badshah Nawab Razvi Training College for female teachers." At the Delhi Coronation Durbar of 1903 the Nawab was the guest of Government. On the 19th November 1903, the Government was pleased to award him the coronation medal. For some time he was Vice-Chairman of the Patna Municipality and an Honorary Magistrate. His services are still at the disposal of the Municipality and the Patna District Board.

On the 1st January 1909, he was invested with the title of *Nawab*, as a personal distinction, by His Excellency Lord Minto, then Viceroy and Governor-General of India. In a Divisional Durbar held at Bankipore on Friday the 1st October 1909, at 4 P. M., Mr. W. Maud, the Commissioner

of the Patna Division, presented the Nawab with the Khilat and the Sanad, and addressed him in the following words:—

"You, Nawab Haji Syed Badshah Nawab Razvi of Patna City, have been granted the rank of a *Nawab*, partly, and I may say chiefly, on account of the intrinsic merit which you have yourself exhibited, but also (and I believe that this will be specially appreciated by you) in retrospective recognition of the illustrious family to which you belong. The occasions must be within the memory of many present here to-day on which your cousin, the late Nawab Bahadur Syed Wilayat Ali Khan, C.I.E., and your father, Nawab Syed Lutf Ali Khan, C.I.E., received, in recognition of their high services, Khillats from the hands of Government, if not in this actual hall, at any rate within the precincts to which it now belongs. The Behar School of Engineering, which is a monument to your father's liberality, is almost visible from our place here. A mile or two beyond is the evidence, of your own liberality in the form of the Badshah Nawab Training College for Women Teachers. I hope that in due course of time that college may be transferred to a more suitable site and to more convenient accommodation, but wherever it may be, the endowment of it, amounting in value to over one and a half lakhs of rupees, will remain as your gift, a gift which has originated the first serious attempt to deal with female education in Behar upon a truly purda system.

"I need not recapitulate all other services which you have done at various times to Government. You have been an efficient and conscientious Magistrate and have acted on one occasion as Vice-Chairman of the Municipality of the large city in which you reside, and of which you are now a member of the board of Commissioners. It has been a pleasure to me, as representing Government in this division for several years, to watch your career, and to find that, while acting by acknowledgment as the leader of one of the great parties of the great Musalman Faith, you are yet able and willing to interest yourself in the work of progress and in the details of the local Municipal Administration. I congratulate you most sincerely on your attainment to the rank of which you received the sanad to-day".

The Nawab Sahib was present at the Delhi Durbar of 1911 as Government guest and took part in all its functions. He is a popular nobleman with advanced ideas and has many more years of useful and active life before him.

THE HONOURABLE NAWAB KHWAJA MOHAMMED YOUSOFF KHAN BAHADUR OF DACCA

The ancestors of the Honourable Nawab Khwaja Mohammed Yousoff Khan Bahadur were the direct descendants of Shah Syed Abdul Qadir Gilani of Bagdad, and his grandmother came in the line of Shah Syed Obeidullah Ahrar Tusi. One of Gilani's successors, Khwaja Khairulla, a Sunni, unable to cope with the feuds and dissensions of the other sect, Shia, left his country, Kashmir, with the other families of his clan, in the middle of the eighteenth century, and settled down at Delhi. Like his predecessors, he was also a religious guide, owned extensive property at Kashmir, and had a large number of followers. Several offshoots of this family settled in different parts in the Punjab and Bengal. He ultimately came to Patna, with a son, Mahomed Afzal, and a daughter, and remained there permanently. They carried on extensive business in various lines, and in course of time made a large fortune. In 1850, Khwaja Mahomed Mahdi, the grandson of Khwaja Mahomed Afzal, married a sister of the late Nawab Sir Abdul Gani of Dacca.

Nawab Khwaja Mohammed Yousoff, son of Khwaja Mahomed Mahdi, born in 1856, was carefully trained by his parents in his early years and received sound education. He was always fond of cultured society, and in the company of educated people he displayed intelligence in the discussion of general and political subjects. He married a daughter of Nawab Sir Abdul Gani, and a half sister of Nawab Sir Ahsanullah Bahadur of Dacca. He was a Municipal Commissioner long before and after the introduction of the Local Self-Government Act. Nawab Bahadur Sir Abdul Gani and Sir Ahsunullah, who held him in great esteem, always consulted him on matters relating to their family and estate. He has held the Vice-Chairmanship of the Dacca District Board since 1896. He was elected Chairman of the Dacca Municipality in 1897. For well-nigh thirty years he was an Honorary Magistrate. He founded the Mahomed

Association, which has since developed into the Provincial Mahomedan Association. It was through his exertions that the Dufferin Moslem Hospital was erected at Dacca, in commemoration of the visit of His Excellency to that city in 1888. The British Government granted him a certificate of honour in 1903, and the title of *Khan Bahadur* in 1904. Six years later, he won the distinction of *Nawab*. At the investiture ceremomy, Sir Lancelot Hare observed :—

It is with much pleasure that I am about to hand to you the title of *Nawab*, which has been given to you by the King-Emperor as a personal distinction. For no less than thirteen years you have served with disinterested zeal and energy as Chairman of the Municipality of Dacca, and for some years previously you were Vice-Chairman. You have also served some years as Vice-Chairman of the District Board. In these capacities you have rendered great services to Government and to the public It is in your time that the greatly improved and more abundant water supply has been given to the town of Dacca, and to your wise and tactful treatment of this difficult problem your fellow townsmen owe this great improvement. In this and in other matters you have always put at the disposal of Government and the public the benefit of your local knowledge and your personal influence. Knowing Dacca as intimately as I do, I can say that great improvements have been effected during your regime, and no advice will, I am sure, be more valuable than yours in the further improvement which, as funds permit, we are anxious to carry out.

In the course of his reply to the farewell addresses presented to him, Sir Lancelot Hare referred to the services of the Nawab Saheb in the following terms :—

In every department of Government, I have received the greatest help and not least in the improvement of the City of Dacca from my old friend, the Chairman of the Municipality, the Hon'ble Nawab Khwaja Mahomed Yousoff, whose intimate knowledge of the requirements of your City and untiring zeal in carrying out useful and necessary works you can appreciate and recognise as well as I can..................."

Nawabzadah Khwajah Muhammad Afzal, the eldest son of the Nawab Sahib, and a scion of the renowned Dacca Nawab family, was born on the 3rd December 1875. He is an undergraduate of the Calcutta University, and studied during the years 1894-5 in the Dacca College, but delicate constitution prevented him from continuing his studies further. He married the eldest daughter of the present Dowager Begum Besides being a member of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, the All-India Moslem League, the Mahomedan Provincial Association and numerous other important bodies, he is an honorary visitor to the Lunatic Asylum and to the Central Jail. He is an Honorary Magistrate, invested with

second-class powers, and is empowered to sit singly. In 1910 he was recognised Nawabzada—the foremost in East Bengal to receive this privilege from the Government. On the occasion of the last Delhi Durbar he received a certificate of honour, and subsequently, on the King-Emperor's Birthday, a coronation medal. He is a great Persian scholar, having received his early training in that language under the late Mirza Mohammed *Makhmur* Shirazi, nephew of *Wisal*, the well-known poet-laureate of Persia. His poetical talent has already gained for him the title *Shams-ush-Shuara* in the Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam. He has compiled several volumes of Parsi and Urdu verses, eulogies, elegies, epitaphs, and chronograms. All these he has written with the greatest ease and facility and in the most difficult metres. It is said that his verses have not only secured to him the admiration of his educated countrymen, but placed him at the head of the few who are credited with having paid attention to this most important and difficult subject. His chronograms, on all events of importance, have been appreciated by all classes of people; and the Local Government as well as the Government of India have commended him for them. He submitted his poems, published in honour of the Delhi Durbar, to their Imperial Majesties, and the other members of the Royal Family, who all praised him for them. We give below the translation in English of the ingenious chronograms, which elicited the appreciation of the cultured people in India :—

I. Verily the Country of INDIA is transported with joy,
As the KING-EMPEROR has bedecked his head with
the *Imperial Crown*.

II. The ocean-hearted King on account of whose effervescence
of munificence and bounty,
The cloud of his liberal hand is scattering pearls and jewels

III. His bright counsel imparts brilliancy even to the Sun,
In the same way as the Sun does to the Moon.

IV. His name, on account of his prudence and wisdom, is the
amulet for the chiefs,
The dust of whose feet would add to the lustre of the
crowns of the grandees.

V. May the blessings of Jesus be always with KING GEORGE,
May the shadow of Mary, the Holy Virgin, be ever
on our QUEEN MARY.

VI. As long as the Earth does revolve, may the Sun of his
glory never be dimmed.
As long as the Sky domes overhead, the firm foundations
of his Empire rest secure and safe.

VII. O, **Afzal** ! the year of the **Happy Coronation**
is evident from the dotted letters :—
"*Happily the just King, O ! George the Fifth is wearing the Crown*"
1911 A. D.

1. Signs of joy and cheerfulness are visible all around,
From the Earth to the Moon, the notes of raptures resound :
2. That His Imperial Majesty, our King-Emperor George V.
Has bedecked his head with the Imperial Crown.
3. The Diadem of our Sovereign is like the Signet Ring
of the Prophet Solomon,
Which has under its sway seven Seas and seven Continents.
4. Like to a Chameleon, the Shan-i-Chin (the Sun) is
enamoured of vast dominions of our King,
And never ceases to shine on them from the East to West.
5. The tokens of felicity, happiness and cheerfulness,
Are current in his kingdom far off and near.
6. In beauty and lustre, Delhi to-day surpasses the Firdaus
(Paradise),
Its grass doth the lovely foliage of Tuba (Tree in Paradise),
excel.
7. The good fortune of this Royal Throne, the ancient
Peacock-Throne grew astonied,
Like a serpent it twists itself and in very shame droops
its diminished head.
8. On the celebration of the CORONATION, all nature has
donned the cap of mirth and merriment,
Buoyancy of spirits is beaming on the face of the people.
9. The subjects are happy, and the Chiefs the honored recipients
Of Titles, Khillats, Jagirs and high positions.
10. The King-Emperor and the Queen-Empress :
Gorg (George) and Mary are covered with glory like the
Sun or the Moon.
11. O ! Thou, Almighty God ! Who art the Creator of
eighteen-thousand Worlds,
By the grace of the Prophet may they eternally illuminate
this Universe ;
12. And may the *four letters of the names of each be ever
enshrined in our loyal hearts.
As long as the four elements co-exist in this World.
13. When I contemplated the year, whispered gently the
inspiring angel :
Afzal, write out : *This is the happy day of the Coronation*
1329 A. H.
Celebration.

* *In Persian*, George as well as Mary are spelt with four letters.

THE HONOURABLE MIR ASAD ALI KHAN BAHADUR

One of the most popular and influential members of the Mahomedan community in the Deccan is the Honourable Mir Asad Ali Khan Bahadur a scion of the ruling family of Banganapalle, the only Mahomedan State under the political control of the Government of Madras. He is the second son of the late Nawab Fateh Ali Khan Bahadur, C. S. I., of Banganapalle, and the younger brother of the present Nawab. He is also connected by marriage with a rich, noble and ancient family in Hyderabad. The nobleman is, therefore, very prominently associated with the premier Mahomedan State in India. He is a very intelligent, public spirited, and broad-minded gentleman taking a lively interest in all that concerns the welfare of both the Mahomedan and Hindu communities. For the high position he occupies in public estimation and the honour he enjoys, he is yet very young, and it may be hoped that a more brilliant future is in store for him. He has cultivated high artistic tastes, and is at present the Proprietor of a high class firm of jewellers, Messrs. Framji Postonji Bhumgara. He is a connoisseur of diamonds and other Precious stones, and the varied interests he has thus brought together in himself, keep him always engaged, both pleasantly and profitably.

The Nawabs of Banganapalle trace their descent from the Prime Minister of Shah Abbas II of Persia in the early part of the seventeenth century. His son married a daughter of the wazir (Minister) of Bijapur and his grandson who was holding a high military office under the Nawab of Arcot, married a rich heiress, the only daughter of the then Jaghirdar of Banganapalle, an uncle of the grand vazeer of Aurangzeb. The State itself was long an appanage of the Nizam's Dominions, and the Sayyids of Banganapalle were held in the greatest esteem at the Court of Hyderabad. The State passed under British protection in the political distribution of the Ceded Districts immediately after the fall of the short-lived Mahomedan house of Mysore. So the Honourable gentleman, who was born in August 1879, can claim a very noble ancestry. His father, the.



THE HONOURABLE MIR ASAD ALI KHAN BAHADUR

late Nawab of Banganapalle, was a very orthodox Chief, and he took the greatest care in training up his children on strict Islamic principles by giving them a complete education in Arabic and Persian. To this was added, in the case of the subject of the present memoir, a rather prolonged training in English in the Nizam's College, at Hyderabad.

The education which he thus received has filled him with a just ambition to make himself useful to the public at large, and instead of spending his time in idle repose and useless frivolities as so many younger children of Ruling Chiefs do, he showed early a keen business turn of mind. Mr. Molony, I. C. S., who was in political charge of Banganapalle for sometime, was much impressed with the intelligence and capacity for work of Mir Asad Ali Khan Bahadur, and he gave expression to his regard on more than one public occasion and in more than one official document. With no less warmth did the Political Agent for Banganapalle, Mr. Lloyd, praise his talents and virtues when presenting to him the sanad of *Khan Bahadur*. Mir Asad Ali Khan Bahadur was for sometime attached to the Agricultural College at Saidapet and later on to the Collectors of Bellary and Chingleput, to gain practical insight into administrative work. But his attention was soon diverted to trade, and he started the firm of Messrs. M. A. Ali and Brothers, of which he was the Managing Director for a period of four years. In 1906 when Banganapalle was constituted into a Municipality, he became its first President, and did much useful work for the improvement of the town, which was very much appreciated by the Political Agent. On the occasion of the visit to Madras of Their Majesties as Prince and Princess of Wales in 1905-06, he acted as Private Secretary to his brother, the present Nawab, and took part in all the important functions of the royal tour. In 1907 he was exempted from the operations of the Indian Arms Act. He organised a relief fund for the sufferers in the flood at Hyderabad of 190[illegible], when his wife also came forward to collect large sums from among th[illegible] ladies for the same purpose. In 1908 when Sir Arthur Lawley visited Banganapalle to instal his brother as Nawab, he was so well impressed with the bearing and behaviour of the brothers of the Nawab, that, as His Excellency himself said, he thenceforth claimed them as his friends. With a view to get into a larger sphere of work and also to look after the education of his children, he left Banganapalle and settled down in Madras, where he carries on business in artistic work as the sole Proprietor of the firm of Messrs. Framji, Pestonjee, Bhungara, which he has purchased.

A nobleman of social habits and philanthropic instincts, he finds time to take an active part in all public movements. He is a member of the

leading clubs and societies in Madras, as the Gymkhana, the Cosmopolitan Club, the Anjuman, the Trades Association, the All-India Moslem League, and the Madras Presidency Moslem League. He is also an enthusiastic mason. He serves on the Managing Committee of the Mahomedan Educational Association of Southern India, and is also the Honorary Treasurer of the Anjuman-i-Mufid-i-Ahla-i-Islam, Madras. In the success of the Mahomedan University Scheme also his interest is no less keen and active. The title of *Khan Bahadur* was conferred on him as one of the new year honours of 1911. In 1912 he was appointed an Honorary Magistrate for the town of Madras by the Madras Government. He is thoroughly loyal to the suzerain power, and encourages all movements to promote allegiance to the paramount power. He was one of the first to move in the matter of presenting an address to Their Majesties, when they visited India in December 1911. He is very fond of travelling and has visited almost all the important cities in India. His wife also is a kind-hearted and refined lady, and she enjoyed the special privilege of friendship with both Lady Lawley and Lady Carmichael. He has two sons and a daughter, and the eldest of his children, Mir Raza Ali Khan, is an intelligent and promising young man. On the last Delhi Durbar day he celebrated the auspicious occasion by entertaining a large number of friends and by distributing silver coins among the poor. He is being educated at the Wesley College, Madras.

At the time of the last election in December 1912, Mir Asad Ali Khan Bahadur was invited by a large and influential section of Mahomedans to represent their interests in the Imperial Legislative Council, and he was returned to it by an overwhelming majority without any effort on his part. In the Council he is doing much silent and unostentatious work in his own way. Though a zealous champion of Mahomedan interests, he is not swayed by any racial prejudices and is equally interested in the welfare of all Indian fellow subjects. One novel system which the honourable gentleman has adopted is to issue periodical circulars among his constituents giving a resume of the work he is doing in the Council, and also bringing prominently to the notice of the community any lines on which their activities may be usefully directed for the well-being of the people.

Thus the Honourable Mir Asad Ali Khan Bahadur is a prominent and influential Mahomedan of South India, who is devoting his talents and opportunities most usefully for the benefit of the people of India in general and of the Mahomedan world in particular. He has just emerged into public life, and young as he is, we may safely predict for him a most successful and brilliant career.

MEER ZULFIKAR ALI KHAN WALADE NAWAB MEER JAFUR ALI KHAN BAHADUR CHIEF OF KAMADIA

POLITICAL PENSIONER AND JAGHIRDAR OF THE BARODA STATE

This nobleman lost his father as a minor at Surat, Bombay Presidency. Sir Theodore Hope, Agent to the Governor at Surat, was appointed guardian and administrator of his estate by the Bombay Government. His father, H.H. Meer Jafur Ali Khan Bahadur, was the first among the Gujrat aristocracy to visit England in 1844. At Windsor Castle and St. James's Palace he was granted audience by Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, Empress of India. Meer Zulfikar Ali Khan Bahadur was sent to England for education at a comparatively young age. After his return to India, he joined the Rajkumar College, Rajkot. He is a jurisdictional Chief of Kamadia in Kathiawar. He has two sons, Nawabzadas Meer Sarfaraz Ali Khan and Meer Gulam Khaja Moinudin Khan, who have received good English education under Mr. James McDonald, J. P., of the Scottish Educational Society's High School, Bombay.

MIR INTIZAM ALI KHAN BAHADUR
FIRST-CLASS SARDAR OF BARODA

The progenitor of the family to which the subject of this sketch belongs, was Mir Sahib Mir Sarfaraz Ali Khan Sahib of birth and means, Zamindar and holder of rent-free land in Shaswan, Badoon District, Rohilkhand. At the close of the eighteenth century, he took service under the Government of H. H. the Gaekwar, distinguished himself as a Commander in the State army, acquired power and influence at the Court, and estates in both British Gujarat and Baroda territory, and was for many years before his death the chief local authority over H. H. the Gaekwar's possession in Kathiawar. His services in command of the Gaekwar's contingent with the British army in the expedition across the Narbada and at the surrender of Bajirao Peshwa, and in the subsequent quelling and dismissing of the mutinous Arabs and Rohillas of that Province, were warmly acknowledged by Sir John Malcolm, and he was highly esteemed by the British officers of high rank, as Sir John Malcolm, Colonel Walker, Messrs. Elphinstone, J. R. Carnac, Williams, Outram, F. F. French, W. S. Boyd, and several others who came in contact with him. When Mir Saheb Mir Sarfaraz Ali Khan returned with the Gaekwar's contingent from Malwa wars with flying colours, His Highness was so much pleased with him that he made him his first-class Sardar, which has since become hereditary in the family. On the recommendation of Sir John Malcolm, the Baroda and the British Governments rewarded his faithful and loyal services by the grant of the inam village of Gotra in the Savalee Pargana of His Highness the Gaekwar, and by exempting him to pay all sorts of the East India Company's share of tribute, etc., in respect of the village of Kamandia in Kathiawar. Mr. Boyd gave Mir Sarfaraz Ali Khan, as mentioned in his letter, dated 12th July 1841, Sir James's note of the 26th April 1841, as a memorial of the high opinion the late Governor had entertained of his merits as a trustworthy and serviceable ally of the British Government, and further testified to the high esteem in which Mir Sarfaraz Ali Khan Sahib was held by several Governments.

Mir Sahib Mir Sarfaraz Ali Khan Sahib, after serving the Governments of the Gaekwar and the British loyally and faithfully, died in 1860. As his eldest son, Mir Akbar Ali Khan, had predeceased him, his grandson, Mir Ibrahim Ali Khan, succeeded him. Mir Ibrahim Ali Khan followed in the footprints of his grandfather, and was the most loyal Sardar of His Highness the Gaekwar. He was present at the Delhi Durbar of 1877 as one of the suite of the Gaekwar, and received a medal. He passed away on the 1st January 1889. After him, his eldest son, Mir Ihtisham Ali Khan, became Sardar. His Highness the present Maharajah Gaekwar conferred on him the post of Squadron Commander in the Military Department independent of the Sardarship. His Highness had great regard for Mir Ihtisham Ali Khan for his steadfast loyalty and earnest discharge of his duty. On his death on the 24th May 1914, his eldest son, Mir Saheb Mir Intizam Ali Khan, succeeded to the estate.

KHAN SAHEB NAWAB SYED TASADDUQ HUSAIN RAIS AND HONORARY MAGISTRATE OF AURANGABAD

The subject of this memoir claims his descent from an ancient family, its progenitor, Nawab Sadar Jahan, having been Prime Minister to Emperor Jalaluddin Akbar. His edifices are still extant at Pihani near Hardoi. His son, Nawab Syed Murtaza Khan, flourished during the reign of Emperor Shahjahan, as a military commander, and, on his retirement, he received a jaghir, which yielded twenty lakhs per annum. His great-grandson, Nawab Syed Khurram, the ancestor of Syed Tasadduq Husain, obtained the Barwar, Mohamdi, and Aurangabad estates. Several causes contributed to the downfall of the family, which now owns a very small portion of what it once possessed.

Nawab Syed Tasadduq Husain, son of Nawab Syed Ali Husain, was born on the 1st March 1875. In his early years, he acquired a sound knowledge of Persian and Urdu. On his passing the necessary examinations for Government service with credit, he was nominated a Tahsildar, but he declined the offer as he had to attend to domestic affairs. He marric, Nawab Jafari Begam Sahiba, the eldest daughter of his maternal uncle, Nawab Syed Ashiq Ali, who was also descended from the family of Nawab Syed Khurram, and who was very useful to the British during the Mutiny. The following letter, written on the 28th December 1858 by the Officer commanding the Brigade, Sitapur District, speaks for itself :—

The bearer, Ashiq Ali, a resident of Aurangabad, in the District of Mohamdi, I beg to recommend to the kind consideration of all Englishmen. When the officers from Shahjahanpur, with their wives and children, were so cruelly murdered near Aurangabad, while on their way to Lucknow in the month of June 1857, Meer Ashiq Ali had their remains collected and buried near the road-side about a mile to the west of Aurangabad near the fatal tree, where they were murdered. A mound of earth marks the spot near the " Karballa," Ashiq Ali, since the return of our troops, has behaved remarkably well and has been of greater assistance in supplying information and supplies. He has charge of the Thanna at Aurangabad, and has, I believe, given satisfaction

The Settlement Officer, Major Boulderson, in his judgment, dated the 29th September 1866, remarked :—

The early history of the rise of the Kasba Aurangabad rests apparently on tradition only—but the leading facts are well known. The only difficulty is in ascertaining dates regarding the said settlement and conquest of the Ilaqua, and the different changes which followed the death of Nawab Syed Khurram, who founded the town and built the masonry fort, still used as a Police post. It is said Aurangabad was founded in the time of Aurangzeb Badshah Alamgir of Delhi, who reigned from 1068 to 1118. Syed Khurram was the son of Nawab Abdul Muktadar Khan of Barwar, a descendant of the well-known Nawab Syed Saddar Jahan of Pihani, who, in the time of the Emperor Akbar, was "Suddar". As Suddar, he got a jaghir grant of nine Parganas of the Mohamdi Elaka. Syed Khurram had twelve sons, and Ahuk Ali, plaintiff, traces descent from Najabat Ali, one of the sons of Syed Khurram from generations back, etc."

On the death of Nawab Syed Ashiq Ali, his nephew and son-in-law, Nawab Syed Tasadduq Husain, succeeded to the estate. His abilities as a Talukdar and his many-sided activities as a public-spirited man, attracted the attention of the Government, who, in 1885, invested him with powers to be exercised within the limits of the Mitauli Police Station. His work was so satisfactory that in 1910 his jurisdiction was extended by the addition of the Pasgawan Police Station too. He had been a member of the District Board of Kheri for many years, and was commended for his services at the annual meetings. He is still a distinguished member of the District Committee, of the Juvenile Jail, Bereilly, of the High School, of the Department of Agriculture in the United Provinces, etc. By virtue of his noble qualities of head and heart, and his loyal and patriotic acts, he has been the recipient of good many testimonials from high officials, notably the one granted by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces, in commendation of his services during the recent famine. The Honourable Sir Harcourt Butler, Member of the Imperial Council, when he was a Settlement Officer, wrote on the 24th March 1901 :—

I have known Nawab Tasadduq Husain for four years, and have formed a very good opinion of him. He is an excellent manager and treats his tenants well. His villages are better looked after than any in the neighbourhood. He takes an intelligent interest in affairs, is open to reason, and is liberal-minded. As an instance of his liberality of mind I note, what Dr. Wilson has told me and what I have myself observed, that he treats the Christian converts in those parts well. He looks after the memorial at Aurangabad, is always ready to assist, and is thoroughly loyal. He supplies most the rasad to troops marching through the Parganah. When anything has got to be done, down to pigsticking arrangement, he is the man to help. His charity to the poor is

well known. I have known many cases in which he has settled equitably out of court. He has influence on his own estate and he uses this influence for good in preventing resort to the courts, and many of his neighbours come to him for decision. In the past, I have often heard, he did admirable work as Honorary Magistrate. Nawab Tasadduq Husain has a special claim for considerate treatment by Englishmen, because his father-in-law gave decent burial to the unhappy refugees from Mohamdi, a service which one wishes might have been specially rewarded at the time, but which cannot, as the Nawab wishes, but be specially rewarded now. But it constitutes a strong claim for considerate treatment. And this treatment is deserved on the merits by Tasadduq Husain. His estate is small, but he has considerable influence. He is thoroughly loyal, and I have found him thoroughly reliable in all matters connected with the settlement and with the general administration when I have held charge of the District. I suppose I know the District pretty well, and I consider Tasadduq Husain is one of the best landlords in the whole District and by far the most reliable and useful man west of the Katna.

In administrative matters, Nawab Syed Tasadduq Husain is of considerable assistance to the Government. He takes much interest in the breeding of cattle and lately presented two bulls to the Government cattle-farm at Kashipur, for which the Deputy Commissioner of Nainital offered him thanks. He was of great service to the authorities concerned in promoting vaccination throughout the Kheri district.

He is a man of very simple and abstemious habits. He is very kind to his tenants, and the poorest of them have easy access to him. He takes a keen interest in educational matters; he has opened a large number of schools in his estate, and helps poor students to a marked extent. He has built several boarding houses and lower primary schools. He has made large additions to his ancestral estate. On the occasion of the Coronation Durbar of 1911, he gave fete to the local students, helped the poor people, and made a substantial remission to his tenants. The Government of India placed on record their appreciation of his meritorious services by presenting him, on that auspicious day, with a silver medal, and on the Birthday of His Majesty conferred on him the title of *Khan Sahib.* The distinction of Nawab had been enjoyed by all his predecessors, and Syed Tasadduq Husain holds it by courtesy, and it is high time that Government should recognise it.



COLONEL SIR AFSUR-UL-MULK BAHADUR, K.C.I.E., M.V.O., A.D.C

COLONEL SIR AFSUR-UL-MULK BAHADUR, K. C. I. E., M. V. O., A. D. C.

Sir Afsur-ul-Mulk Bahadur holds his Commission as an Honourary Colonel in the British Army. He is in command of His Highness the Nizam's Regular Force which is composed of the Regular Troops, the Hyderabad Imperial Service Troops, and the Golconda Brigade. Colonel Sir Afsur raised the Golconda Brigade thirty years ago. In 1892, when His Highness the late Nizam offered two Cavalry Regiments for Imperial Service, the Colonel was entrusted with the organizing of these Regiments, and one of them, the 1st Lancers, is now on Foreign Service.

When war was declared in August 1914, Colonel Sir Afsur offered his services for the front, but owing to several reasons his services were at that time required more at Hyderabad, and much to his disappointment his going was postponed. Later on in April 1915, the Colonel again offered his services, and, as the reason for his stay in Hyderabad no longer existed, His Highness the Nizam and His Excellency the Viceroy were pleased to approve of the Colonel's application and he sailed from Bombay to join the Imperial Service Cavalry Brigade on the 24th April 1915.

Colonel Sir Afsur received the C.I.E. decoration in 1897, during the Jubilee Honours; K.C.I.E. in 1908, and the M.V.O. in 1906, when His Majesty the King-Emperor George V visited India as Prince of Wales. He has seen active service and holds the Afghan Medal for 1879-1880; in the Black Mountain Expedition in 1888, he was on the late Earl Roberts's Staff and was mentioned in despatches and was granted a Medal. He served in China in 1900, on General Gaselee's Staff and holds a Medal for his services.

The Colonel was a representative at the Coronation of His late Majesty King Edward VII in 1902, and was also present at both the Delhi Durbars of 1903 and 1911. In the latter year he rode on the Staff of His Excellency the Viceroy as Honourary A.D.C. being present also in that capacity on the

occasion of the State Entry into Dehli when that dastardly assault was made on His Excellency Lord Hardinge.

Notwithstanding his long service, the Colonel is still keen on sport and competes with the younger Officers in tent-pegging and sheep cutting, and it takes a lot to beat him even now. As a judge of horseflesh the Colonel is second to none and is an authority on the Arab. During his travels in Baghdad and Syria, the Colonel was able to purchase some very good thorough-breds and had much difficulty in procuring them as the Arab is very loth to part with animals of a high class breed To a "Trip to Baghdad" written by Nawab Hamid Yar Jung, one of the Colonel's sons, Sir Afsur has added an appendix on the Arab horse, which is very instructive to all lovers of horseflesh and is much appreciated.

PEERZADAH MOTAMIYA SAHEB SAJJADAH NASHEEN

Peerzadah Mutauddin *alias* Motamiya Saheb, the Sajjadah Nasheen of the Peer Saheb's *gadi* of Mangrol near Broach, the recognised Kazi of Kadi, Baroda State, one of the leading priests of Viramgam in the Ahmedabad District, and the Naib Dewan of the Sachin State, comes of the noble family of the Prophet Mahomed. His forefathers were originally natives of Mecca, where they exercised great influence as religious heads, who afterwards settled in India before the Moghal Empire was founded. At an early age Mr. Peerzadah gave promise of a very hopeful future. His shrewdness in many respects was marked. His diligence in study, his fondness for languages, and his thirst for knowledge were great. He pushed his studies with great application and made good progress. He studied up to the B. A., but had to give up his studies owing to the premature death of his father who was the Sajjadah Nasheen of the Mangrol *gadi*.

After the death of his father he was installed in his place. He has had the advantage of good English education; and in addition to his own language, Hindustani, he knows other languages as well. He has also a good knowledge of religion and has written books which have met with great public approbation. His *Life of the Arabian Prophet* in Gujerati is an admirable work and is highly thought of. His discourses and sermons delivered on various occasions have been of great advantage to the Mahomedans, and his contributions to the newspapers have been always models of calm, dispassionate, and broad-minded survey of social and religious questions. His honest and disinterested work endeared him to the people of Kadi who selected him as their Kazi to guide them in religious matters. He has a big Jaghir of the Dargah to attend to, and manages it very considerately.

The Dargah goes by the name of "Peer Motamiya Saheb's Dargah" who founded a religious seat at Mangrol, in the Navsari District, in Gujerat, about a hundred and fifty years ago, for the spiritual benefit of his followers. This seat is so well-known that the *Advocate of India* mentions it

with justice in the issue of the 2nd January 1914. It states, " An annual fair was held at Mangrol, between Surat and Broach, in honour of Peer Motamiya Saheb, a saint of great reputed holiness. The place was gay owing to a large number of shops, booths, and shows, put up in its locality. The fair commenced on the 25th of December and will last for the whole of January. The Sandal Ceremony was performed on the 28th December, when a large procession arranged by Peerzadah Motamia III, and presided over by Peer Badamia Saheb, went to the Dargah Sharif and made floral offerings with prayers. The " Urs" proper was observed and celebrated the next day with great formality. A large number of pilgrims, Mahomedans and non-Mahomedans, were present. The mausoleum of the Peer Saheb was brilliantly lit up. The Peer Saheb is said to have performed several miracles, and is held in great veneration. His seat is at present occupied by Peerzadah Motamiya III, who has studied up to the B.A., with a religious following of more than fifteen thousand. The young Peerzadah possesses qualities which mark him out as a liberal priest. He is held in high esteem by the people owing to his social position and high character".

His social position, education, and smartness brought him up to the front and recommended him to His Highness the Nawab Saheb of Sachin who manifested his appreciation of his good qualities by appointing him to the respectable post of Naib Dewan of the State. Since then he has been working there with great zeal and efficiency. He is a very intelligent man, unassuming in manners, and conscientious in his dealings with others and possesses altogether a very rare combination of qualities which distinguish him as a broad-minded priest.

Such a man possessing the many-sided qualifications and virtues to which we have referred cannot fail to secure the appreciation and approbation of the public. He is now only thirty-three years of age and has a very bright future before him.

RAJAH SRIRANGADEVARAYALU BAHADUR VARU OF ANAGONDI

To the student of history the estate of Anagondi is interesting as a pathetic relic of bygone greatness, for to-day it represents the forgotten Empire of Vijayanagar, the ruins of whose ancient capital near Hampi attract so many annual visitors from all parts of the world. The story of that Empire has been well told in the monumental work of Mr. Robert Sewell, I. C. S., the accomplished archæologist and antiquary. The kingdom was designed and built up in the heart of the Carnatic by the distinguished pontific sage, Vidyarania, to check the fury of the growing Mahomedan power, which at one time threatened to demolish the Indian nation. The famous Hampi ruins, the highly refined and cultivated state of the Dravidian languages, the scientific expoundings of the mystic vedic lore, the popular rural ballads of bravery, generosity, and devoted maintenance of the honour of the fair sex, the eminent results of the patient archæological researches of the present day, the tanks and anicuts all over the country, are abundant proofs of the Kings' encouragement of learning, science, and architecture, and of its unique chivalry and high standard of morality and civilization in those days. The kingdom played a prominent part in the Deccan in the pre-Mahomedan days, and is final collapse took place in the middle of the sixteenth century. The descendants of the Narapathi Rajahs, as the Rulers of Vijayanagar were known, had to retire to the village of Anagondi, on the banks of the Tungabadra, a suburb of the ancient capital, and had to live on a small tract of country consisting of about one hundred and twenty villages, yielding not more than seven lakhs of rupees a year. All through the seventeenth century, it was under the rulers of Bijapur and Golconda ; and later on, it passed directly under the sway of the Moghul Emperors and their Subahdars in the south. The position of the family was recognised by the Moghul Emperors, and it was allowed to enjoy this small jaghir free of rent. During the days of the Mahratta supremacy, the family had to endure more difficulties, and when Hyder Ali of Mysore became all-powerful in the south, he inflicted on it the double misfortune of enhancing its tribute without curtailing its

limits. His son, Tippu, violently annexed the whole Raj or Jaghir, but granted a compassionate allowance of Rs. 2,000 a month to the last ruler. In the treaty of 1790, immediately preceding the second Mysore war, the Nizam, the Peshwa, and the British came to an understanding that the Narapathis should be restored to their former possessions, after the close of the war with Tippu, and the then Chief of Anagondi was on the side of the Nizam and the British at that time. After the close of the third Mysore war, the estate of Anagondi was handed over to the overlordship of the Nizam, and the portion of the territory on the southern side of the Tungabadra in the British tracts was resumed by the British Government, the Narapathi being continued, on the arrangement made by Tippu, to enjoy a monthly allowance of Rs 1,877. The Government of H H. the Nizam also made a similar allowance at first, but later on, instead of this arrangement, conferred on the family the present jaghir of Anagondi, consisting of five villages. This was the state to which the ancient Empire of Vijayanagar had been reduced at the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The family was living peacefully on this modest jaghir and allowance from the two Governments for five generations until 1872 when fresh troubles arose over some disputes in respect of succession. In 1884 the Madras Government declared the family to have become extinct and the pension was stopped in 1888, as there was no one who could establish his legal heirship to it. The Government of His Highness the Nizam resumed the jaghir for the same reason, but Sir Asmanjah Bahadur, the late Minister, observed :—

> The Samasthanam is a very ancient and famous one. It would be against humanity and generous policy of Government to extinguish the name. The resumption will not only create universal and widespread dismay in the country, but will cause much regret to this Government also.

On this ground they recognized an adopted son of the family as the Rajah of Anagondi, and restored to him the jaghir, but imposed on him a peishcush of Rupees 10,000 a year. Subsequently the Rajah approached the British Government to revive the old monthly allowance, and after a protracted correspondence and repeated memorials, the allowance was reduced to five hundred rupees a month in 1902. The Nizam's Government was not at first very strict in the matter of enforcing the payment of the peishcush, but in 1905 serious demands were made on its collection. Finally, it was decided on the recommendation of the British Resident, Mr. Dunlop, that in view of the dignity of the Rajah of this ancient Samasthanam the whole "peishcush should be remitted entirely or fixed at one thousand rupees a year at the most for the sake of the name only."

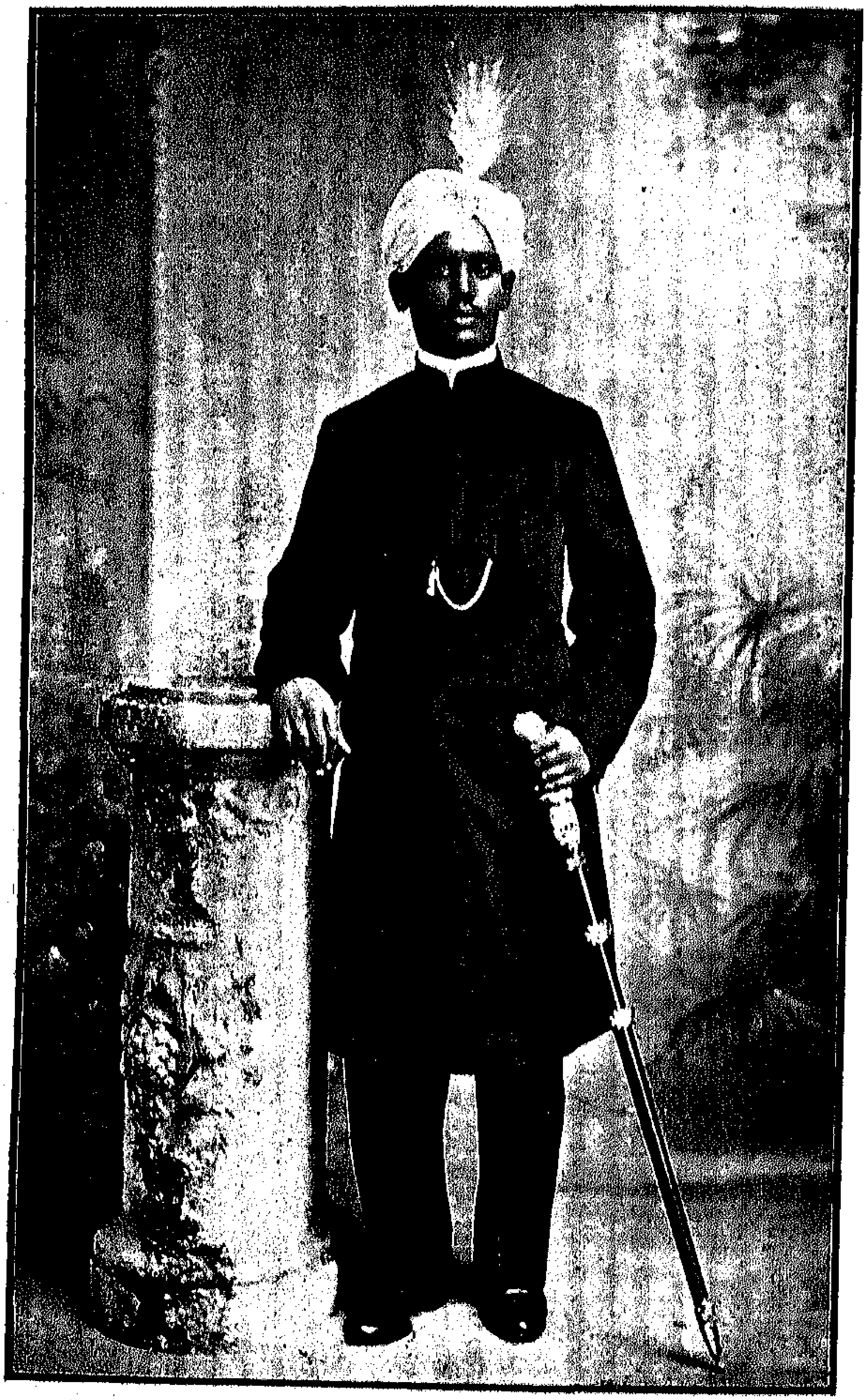
The first attempt to resume the estate and the later imposition of peishcush seem to have been made under the impression that the present Rajah was an outsider imported into the family by adoption, for the Resident observed :—" Had there been a male heir in the family, I should have recommended the continuance of the estate in his possession."

From the genealogy of the family it is clear that Veera Venkatapathi Rayalu, the common ancestor, held the original samasthanam in the time of Hyder Ali. During Tippu's reign he died, leaving behind him a son and a daughter, Thirumala Deva Rayalu and Chellamma. It was after Veera Venkatapathi Rayalu's death that Tippu, finding his son, Thirumal, a weak man of meanest abilities, as Sir Thomas Munro described him in his report of 1801, seized his unprotected estate as an aggression on the Nizam. After Tippu was vanquished and slain, it was this Thirumala Deva Rayalu who was the original grantee of the British pension and the Anagondi jaghir from the Nizam's Government in lieu and in full satisfaction of his immense estate amalgamated with the British and the Nizam's Dominions as stated above. Thirumala Reva Rayulu, who died in 1824, had a sister, Chellamma, a son, Veera Venkatapathi, and a granddaughter, Kesamma (daughter by the eldest son previously deceased). Veera Venkatapathi became the second Rajah with a British pension. He died a bachelor in 1831, when the Narapathi family was represented by the children of Chellamma and Kesamma. Kesamma having a preferential claim, her son, Thirumala Deva Dayalu II, was nominated by both the Governments as the third Rajah. He passed away in 1866, leaving behind him two sons, Venkatrama and Krishna Deva Rayalu, the fourth and the fifth Rajahs respectively. Venkatrama who lived till 1871 had only two daughters, Venkamma and Narsingamma, of whom the latter only survived. After the death of the fifth pensioner, Krishna Devarayalu, without issue in 1872, the British Government nominated, as the sixth pensioner, one Pedda Narasimha Rayalu, the son of Lakshmi Devi, the sister of the third Rajah. But the Nizam's Government disallowed his claim to the jaghir as being inferior to that of Kuppamma, the widow of the fifth Rajah, for she was besides one of the descendants of Chellamma, the daughter of the original ancestor and sister of the original grantee. The Nizam's Government continued the Samasthanam in the name of Kuppamma, with a qualification that, if, after the marriage of Narasingamma, the daughter of the fourth Rajah, a son be born to her, that son should be given in adoption to Kuppamma for the continuance of the Samasthanam. After the issue of the above order it was contemplated by the elder members of the family to give away Narasingamma in marriage to

Pampapathi Rayalu, the present Rajah, thus to unite the two branches of the Narapathi family, and to avoid all future difficulties. At this stage, the pensioner, Narasimha Raj, managed to marry Narasingamma himself, but he passed away before his wife came of age. The British Government nominated her as the seventh pensioner, on the ground of her being the daughter of the fourth Rajah; but the Nizam's Government refused her claim.

The Madras Government declared in 1884 that the family would become extinct after the death of Narasingamma, in spite of the existence of the daughters of Chellamma to represent it. Kuppamma Rani Sahiba and her brother, Pampapathi, are such descendants as, by right and usage, became the rightful heirs of the Narapathi family. After the demise of Narasingamma in 1888, Kuppamma adopted her own brother, Pampapathi, under the style and title of Srimanth Srirangadevarayalu, with the sanction of the Nizam's Government. He was, as a matter of right, the nearest lineal heir, and entitled to succeed to the Narapathi estate. But his adoption by his sister, Kuppamma, was more to give a right to perform the religious rites in honour of her deceased husband, which, as her brother, he could not be authorised to perform in spite of his accession to the estate. For the same reason, Thirumal Raj II, the third pensioner, was formally adopted into the family, although he was the nearest heir to the jaghir.

Sentiment after all plays a prominent part in all human affairs, and it is to be hoped that, in view of the great past of this family and the part played by it in the ancient history of this land, the repeated representations of the present Rajah of Anagondi to restore the family to the position occupied by it before 1872 will receive the sympathetic consideration of both the British Government and that of H. H. the Nizam, and that to the Rajah of Anagondi will soon be restored in full both the old pension from the British Government and the free jaghir from the Hyderabad State.



THE RAJAH OF PITHAPURAM

RAJAH RAO VENKATA KUMARA MAHIPATHI SURYA RAO BAHADUR GARU OF PITHAPURAM

The rich and ancient estate of Pithapuram in the Godavari District of the Madras Presidency, is made up of 168 villages scattered in several taluks, and a few in the deltaic tracts of the Godavari. The soil is naturally fertile, and paddy, sugar-cane and cholum are the principal crops. The zamindari covers an area of nearly 400 square miles and yields a revenue of over ten lakhs of rupees, of which the sum of Rs. 2,64,818 is paid as peishcush. For purposes of revenue administration, it is divided into six tanahs, corresponding to a Tahsildari in the British tracts, the tanahs being Pithapuram, Karapa, Samalkot, Mallavaram, Kadiam and Pulivela. The population is about 280, 817, of which more than 95 per cent. are Hindus, the rest being Mahomedans and Christians. The chief place is the ancient town of Pithapuram of puranic interest containing two Hindu temples, one dedicated to Siva and the other to Vishnu. Pithapuram is a well-known place of pilgrimage; pilgrims on their way back from Gaya and Benares invariably halt there for bathing in the sacred pond known as Padagaya attached to the Siva temple.

Nothing is known of the early history of Pithapuram, or Pithikapuram as it was called, except that it was the chief town of the Vengi Rajahs, who, as shown by some inscriptions, seem to have flourished about the end of the twelfth century. The country then passed into the hands of the Gajapathulu from the Cuttack side. The Sultans of Golconda later on took possession of it, and left it to be managed by the Reddies of Kondavidu. During the days of Sultan Abdul Hussain Kutubut Mulk, the surrounding tracts were annexed to the principality, and forts were put up at Pithapuram, Samalkota and Korukonda. The administration changed hands again, and the Kamma family of Ventapallivaru was placed in possession of the tracts. But it was distracted by internal quarrels, and the Nawab of Golconda bestowed a portion of the territory on the Chitnividivari

family of Velamas, from whom came Rama Rayanim Garu, who rose to be the ruler of the Vengi country. The present Rajahs of Pithapuram trace their descent from this ruler. The family, it is said, migrated from the west. Later on, it suffered great reverses, one Singama Needu having been routed in a battle by Poosapathi Madhava Varma. In this struggle every member of the family was slaughtered, except Singama Needu's pregnant wife, who sought shelter in the house of a faithful Brahmin, Vinjamuri Narasanna, where her posthumous son, Anupothama Needu, was born. On his coming of age, he recovered his estate from Pusapathi Madhava Varma. He had two sons, Sarvagnya Singama Needu who held as Jaghires the forts of Metuku and Kylasa, and Madhava Needu who was always of a devotional turn of mind, and who, as a staunch Vaishnavite, spent his time in visiting Srirangam and other sacred shrines. He had many sons, some of whom settled down at Velugodu near Sreesailam and hence they came to be known as Velugotivaru. These subsequently became the Rajahs of Venkatagiri.

The Vengi country itself continued to be in the hands of Raos, under the suzerainty of either the Delhi Sardars or the Mahomedan Viceroys of Golconda. It is said that Sultan Abdul Hussain conferred on one Tenugu-royaningar of this family the Sardarship of the Rajahmundry Circar. He was succeeded by Krishna Rao who was Sardar for a number of years. He fell ill seriously and had to retire to Samalkota. When his condition grew worse, he sent his brother, Rangasayi Rao, to Golconda to explain matters personally to the Moghul Viceroy. He was very hospitably and kindly received there, but at a game of chess the Viceroy and he fell out, and Rangasayi Rao stabbed himself to death. The Nawab was very much moved and he wanted to compensate the family. At the request of Krishna Rao, the Zamindari of Cocanada, Selapaka, and Polunadu, was then conferred on Chandra Rayanim Garu, the eldest brother of Krishna Rao. Then Pithapur was made the headquarters.

We then pass over ten generations of able and energetic rulers, under whom the estate prospered. Those were days of power and prosperity for the Pithapur estate. The rulers extended their territory either by war or by matrimonial alliances. They effected vast improvements, established many charitable institutions, constructed numerous works of public utility, put up many temples, and in every way showed themselves to be a capable race of administrators alive to the interests of the people committed to their charge. But they had their own troubles. In 1554 they fought with the Moghul Viceroy at Rangammagaripeta and were arrested. In the days of Kumara Mahipathi Rayanimgar, Samalkota was made the place of residence for the chief. At this time the Ruler of Vijayanagar, Ananda

Gajapathi Raj, invaded the zamindari. It is interesting to note that in the conflict the belligerents sought the aid of the Dutch, the French, and the English merchants who had settled themselves on the coast. There was much confusion consequent on this internecine war among the chiefs of the Circars which had a disastrous effect on all. In the end, however, Vatchavaya Timmaraju and Rao Neeladri Rayanimgar were recognized by the Moghul Viceroy, as the rulers of Peddapur and Pithapuram respectively. This was about the middle of the eighteenth century. The Raos continued in undisputed possession of the estate when the Circars passed into the hands of the East India Company. But after Neeladri Rayanimgar, the Company itself had to manage the estate on behalf of the minor son, Venkata Surya Rao Garu. He died in 1850 leaving behind him four minor sons, and the Company had again to take up the management. It is interesting to notice that one of these four sons was adopted by the then Zamindar of Bobbili. When the minor came of age, he took charge of the estate in 1861. Under the careful and economic administration of the Company, the estate improved considerably.

Sri Rajah Venkata Mahipathi Gangadhara Rama Rao entered on his heritage with a cash balance of four lakhs and Government Promissory Notes to the value of three lakhs. Under his able management, there was prosperity all round. He was generous and charitable and was recognised in his time to be one of the leading Zamindars of the Circars. He was given a silver medal in 1876 in recognition of his loyalty, on the occasion of the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, afterwards His Majesty King Edward VII. Again, at the time of the Delhi Assemblage of 1877, in recognition of his many acts of charity, the Zamindar of Pithapuram was given the title of *Rajah*. In 1878 he was made a Member of the Legislative Council of Madras, a very rare honour and a mark of special recognition of worth in those days. He was of great service to the Government in suppressing the Rampa rebellion of 1879. He assisted the Government Agent with the necessary men and forces and also bore all the incidental expenses of the expedition. The Government thanked him for his services and loyalty by a special telegram on the 12th March 1879. It is unnecessary to detail his many acts of charity. It is enough to note that he spent, as far as accounts are available, over Rs. 2,50,000 for charitable purposes not only in his own estate, but at Madras, Rajahmundry, Cocanada and other places. He passed away on the 22nd July 1890 mourned by all who knew him as a large-hearted nobleman. He left behind him a child barely five years old, the present Rajah of Pithapuram, Sri Rajah Rao Venkata Kumara Mahipathi Surya Rao Bahadur Garu, who was born on the 5th October 1885.

The estate was taken over by the Court of Wards and special attention was paid to the training and education of the minor. He was placed under competent tutors until he was nine years of age at Pithapuram, and was afterwards removed to Newington, at Madras, for his education. The young Rajah proved to be very intelligent and assiduous in his studies, and passed the Matriculation Examination of the Madras University in 1902. On his attaining legal majority, the estate was made over to him in October 1906.

The Rajah has carefully followed the lines of administration chalked out for him by the Court of Wards, and the estate is prospering under his management. He is assisted in his work by his Dewan, a Deputy Collector under the Government of Madras, whose services have been lent for the purpose. The Rajah is an ardent social reformer and an enthusiast in the cause of education. Besides maintaining a high school at Pithapuram, he has munificently endowed the college at Cocanada, which takes its name after his family. The institution owes its success and efficiency to his generosity. He has also contributed fifty thousand rupees for a building to the Veeresalingam school at Rajahmundry, so ably managed by that veteran social reformer, Rao Bahadur Veeresalingam Pantulu Garu. He has built at a cost of about Rs. 23,000 a Women's and Children's Ward both at the hospital at Cocanada and at the Bethesda Hospital at Pithapuram. The Rajah has taken in hand the very useful work of putting up in memory of his father at a cost of about Rs. 90,000 an Orphanage at Cocanada where orphans are trained in general and technical subjects and given sound moral and religious instruction. The foundation stone for this building was laid by Sir Arthur Lawley. The Rajah is a patron of learning as well, and every year presents are given to Pandits at the Dusserah. Among his recent acts of charity may be mentioned his subscriptions of a thousand rupees to the King-Edward-All-India-Memorial Fund, and ten thousand rupees to the Edward Presidency Memorial Fund. To commemorate the last Coronation Durbar in a suitable manner, he has, at a cost of Rs. 10,000, built a choultry to accommodate travellers resorting to the hospital at Pithapuram and arranged to build at a cost of Rs. 29,000 a poor house at Cocanada. He paid Rs. 15,000 to the South Africa Fund. He contributed a lakh of rupees for the Madras War Relief Fund, and ten thousand rupees for the Imperial Indian War Relief Fund.

It is superfluous to add that this ancient, rich, and fertile zamindari, which is privileged to be administered by an intelligent, educated, and energetic Rajah, is bound to prosper in the years to come.



RAJAH MASHIR-I-KHAS RAGHUNATH RAO DINKAR BAHADUR MADAR-UL-MOHAM, C. I. E., OF GWALIOR

RAJAH MASHIR-I-KHAS RAGHUNATH RAO DINKAR BAHADUR MADAR-UL-MOHAM, C.I.E., OF GWALIOR

Rajah Mashir-i-Khas Raghunath Rao Dinkar Bahadur, Madar-ul-Moham, C.I.E, was born on the 4th August 1858. He was educated at Agra under the private tuition of Mr. K. Deighton, Principal of the Agra College, and he received instruction in Law from Mr. H. C. C. Wood, Barrister-at-Law. The Rajah has held several appointments in Gwalior. He was for some time Private Secretary to the late Maharajah His Highness General Sir Jayaji Rao Scindia, G. C. B., G. C. S. I., C. I. E., by whom he was appointed Accountant-General in 1881. He was subsequently appointed Magistrate and Collector of Gird and Tawarghar Districts; later on he was appointed Census Commissioner in 1890. In 1896 the present Maharajah, His Highness Major-General Sir Madhav Rao Scindia, G. C. S. I., G. C. V. O., A. D. C., D. C. L., L L. D., appointed him Famine Commissioner. In 1900 when His Highness the Maharajah went on General Gassel's Staff to China to join the expeditionary forces, RAJAH RAGHUNATH RAO was one of the two Members appointed to sit in a Committee to which the Maharajah had delegated his powers for deciding judicial cases. In 1901 His Highness the Maharajah was pleased to nominate him a Member of the Council of Appeal, and subsequently a Member of the Board of Revenue, and in 1903 he was appointed Officiating Chief Secretary to the Durbar. He held charge of the Political Department, which is the channel of correspondence between the British Resident and the Gwalior Government, for about seven years. He is a Member of the Majlis-i-Khas (an advisory body to the Durbar in all matters of State). He now lives a retired life owing to indifferent health and resides partly at Gwalior and partly outside at places like Benares, Allahabad, Cawnpore, and Bombay. He ranks as a First Class Sardar in the Bombay Presidency, and in the United

Provinces Civil List his name appears above Rajah Bahadurs amongst title-holders.

In January 1896, Rajah Raghunath Rao succeeded to the hereditary titles of *Rajah Mashir-i-Khas Bahadur,* conferred by the British Government, and to the estate of his father, the late Rajah Sir Dinkar Rao, K. C. S. I., who was Minister of the Gwalior State during the Mutiny of 1857. The estate is situated in the Districts of Gird, Tawarghar, Amjhera, and Mandsaur, in the Gwalior State, and in the Districts of Agra, Benares, Poona, Ahmadnagar, Satara, and Ratnagiri, in British territory.

In 1910 the title of *Madar-ul-Moham* was conferred upon him by His Highness the Maharajah Scindia, and in December of the ensuing year His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor was graciously pleased to bestow on him the dignity of a Companion of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire.

On several occasions His Highness the Maharajah, when taking a short rest, was pleased to delegate his powers to him in all matters relating to Gwalior administration.

His son, Col. Ganpat Rao Raghunath Rajwade, was educated at the Gwalior College and was trained in office work in the Private Secretary's office. He was subsequently appointed Deputy Director, Land Records, Gwalior State, and was afterwards transferred to the Military Department, where he served for several years as Adjutant-General. He is A. D. C. to His Highness the Maharajah Scindia who was graciously pleased to appoint him Commander-in-Chief of the Gwalior Army in 1918.

RAJAH PRAMATHA BHUSHANA DEVA RAYA BAHADUR OF NALDANGA

Naldanga, the seat of the Naldanga Raj, is situated in the District of Jessore in the Presidency of Bengal.

Rajah Pramatha Bhushana Deva Raya Bahadur, commonly known as the Rajah Bahadur of Naldanga, is the representative of one of the oldest families of ruling princes in this part of Bengal, who, according to the report of Mr. R. D. Maxwell, Collector of Jessore, to the Board of Revenue, dated the 11th January 1826, exercised suzerain power within their own territory though nominally tributary to the Emperors of Hindustan and who, after the termination of the Mahomedan Raj, voluntarily submitted to the British suzerainty and consented to pay revenue to it.

The Naldanga Raj family is descended from Haladhar Akhandal Bhattacharjya, a Kulin Brahmin, who lived in 1500 A. D. at Bhabsasur in the Faridpur District. His fifth in descent, Bishnudas, renounced the world and turned a hermit. The site on which his cottage stood was, after his surname, Hazra, called Hazra-bati. The present Rajahs also call their home Hazra-Asrama or the abode of the Hazras. Bishnudas was believed to have possessed supernatural powers, and to have worked many miracles. It would appear that he once sumptuously fed Man Singha, the General of the Emperor Akbar, and his retinue by his miraculous powers, and was rewarded for it with five villages, which formed the first beginnings of the modern Naldanga Raj. It is traditionally believed that bachelor as Bishnudas was, he had a son, named Srimanta Deb Roy, miraculously born to him. Srimanta Deb Roy embarked in an active career, displayed daring valour, presence of mind, and all the qualities that go to make an eminent warrior, and soon assembled around him a large body of men, whom he formed into a large force. He conquered the neighbouring Pathan Chiefs and annexed their estates. In appreciation of his valour and intrepidity, Osman Khan, the Chief of the Orissa Afghans, conferred on him the distinction of *Ranabir Khan*, and later on granted him a jaghir and confirmed him in his former possessions. In 1600 A. D., he founded the

village of Naldanga. One of his successors, Rajah Chandi Charan Deb Roy, came to prominence in 1643 by subduing a neighbouring Zamindar, Kedareswar, who offended him by his jealous conduct. He won the title of *Rajah* from the Moghul Viceroy of Bengal, amidst great pomp and show attendant on such occasions. After some Chiefs, there came in the line Rajah Suryanarayan Deb Roy who was distinguished for his piety. It is on family record that Brahmananda Giri, the spiritual preceptor of Ranabir Khan, appeared before him, consecrated the image of the family goddess, Indreswari, at Matbati, changed the name of the idol to Sidheswari, and informed him that the zamindari would continue in the possession of his family for twenty-two generations. The temple, dedicated to the goddess Sidheswari, is one of the many old temples built by the Rajahs of Naldanga that are of much archæological interest in the district and visited by archæologists from far and near.

The Rajah in 1685 was Udayanarayan Deb Roy, who spent more than his income, and when the revenue to the Nawab fell into arrears, the latter sent Shamsher Khan, one of his officers, to arrest him. Udayanarayan received Shamsher Khan with all oriental splendour and won his heart, which excited the jealousy of Ramdeb, the younger brother of Udayanarayan. Ramdeb created a misunderstanding between the two; thereupon Shamsher Khan stabbed Udayanarayan to death, and installed Ramdeb as Rajah of Naldanga. Ramdeb was charitably disposed, and his fame for liberality spread far and wide. During his regime the tribute to the Nawab had not been paid for a long time, and, being unable to meet the demand, he appeared before him and voluntarily relinquished his zamindari, His agent, Srikrishnadas of Nandaoli, on knowing it, begged of the Nawab permission to read the contents of the document relating to the relinquishment, and when it was handed to him, he swallowed it so that the whole procedure might come to nought. This roused the fury of the Nawab's attendants, who beat him severely and threw him into the Ganges presuming that he was dead. The Rajah, who went to the river for bathing, removed the body from it, and revived it after nursing. The prayer of the agent for a small landed property to defray the expenses of worshipping an idol in a temple at his house was readily granted by Ramdeb Roy. This incident is still remembered as Istafa-gela or the story of swallowing the relinquishment deed. The descendants of Sri Krishnadas are called " Istafa-gela-Dashes of Nandaoli". The Nawab restored the zamindari to the Rajah on the understanding that he should pay the arrears in instalments. Rajah Ram Deb Roy passed away in 1727. During the reign of his successor, Rajah Raghudeb Roy, Bengal was seriously affected by famine, earthquake, and the devastations of the Mahrattas

and all the chieftains in it, including that of Naldanga, suffered considerably. Rajah Krishnadeb Roy ruled over the Raj from 1748 to 1773. Soon after his death, a dispute arose among his three sons, Gobinda Deb Roy, Mahendra Deb Roy, and Ramsankar Deb Roy. At the instance of Budhai Biswas, their Dewan, the whole estate was parcelled out. Gobinda Deb Roy got one-fifth of the whole zamindari, and he was called the Rajah of Tinani (three annas). Mahendra Deb Roy, who represented the senior branch of the family, received the western division of the estate, and was known as Rajah of Grada Paschim (western division) or more commonly the Bara Rajah. Ramsankar Deb Roy, the representative of the junior branch, was dubbed Rajah of Grada Poorba (eastern division) and also Chota Rajah. They lived separately, but each of them enjoyed the title of Rajah. In course of time, the elder and the Tinani branches of the family lost their property. Ramsankar Deb Roy held the title of Rajah in a recognised form. The representative of the younger branch was known as the Rajah of Naldanga. His successors have made large additions to the estate, which is now one of the finest in the District. Mohanchand Deb Roy predeceased his father in 1811, leaving a widow, Rani Taramani Debi, who, in the same year, gave birth to a posthumous son, Sasi Bhushan Deb Roy. Rajah Ramsankar passed away in 1812, and his wife, Rani Radhamani Debi, committed *Suttee*. The estate called Ranian Britti, commonly known as the Andar-Britti, which Rani Taramani Debi had received from her mother-in-law, she made over in her last days to Rani Patitpabani Debi, wife of her great-grandson, Rajah Pramatha Bhushana Deva Raya. On the death of Rani Taramani Debi, Rajah Pramatha Bhushana Deva Raya annexed this property to his estate.

Rajah Sasi Bhushan Deb Roy, who was born in 1812, was scarcely a year old, when Rajah Ramsankar Deb passed away. During his minority the estate was managed by the Court of Wards. He attained his majority in 1830, when he was placed in charge of the zamindari. He was an excellent Persian scholar. He had a commanding appearance, and was highly spoken of for his gentlemanly behaviour and excellent manners. He was deeply interested in the welfare of his tenants, and did everything in his power to ameliorate their condition. His dealings with the general public were very fair, and he was considered a model Zamindar. He survived his elevation only four years, within which time he added largely to his estate, and constructed many splendid buildings.

After him, his widow, Rani Joydurga Debi, managed the zamindari till 1866, when she adopted, according to the permission granted to her before his demise, Indu Bhushan Deb Roy. She passed away in 1887. Rani Taramani Debi died at Benares in 1894, at the ripe age of 100, with

the courtesy distinction of *Karta Ma* (respected female head of the Raj household).

During the minority of Rajah Indu Bhushan Deb Roy, born in 1835, the Zamindari, through the Court of Wards, was leased out to Mr. T. I. Kenney of Kushtia. On the assumption of its charge by the Rajah, he put up several splendid buildings and excavated many tanks. He spent large sums of money in relieving the distress of the poor, granted monthly allowances to many of his indigent relations, patronised Sanskrit learning, liberally contributed to all movements of public utility, established a charitable dispensary, and made large additions to his estate. At the time of the Mutiny, he was very serviceable to the British Government in supplying them with a number of elephants. In 1860 the title of *Rajah* granted by the Nawab of Bengal in perpetuity was formally recognised by the British Government. Being a great musician himself, he encouraged that fine art in all possible ways. He passed away in 1870 at the comparatively young age of thirty-seven.

He was succeeded by his son, Rajah Pramatha Bhushana Deva Raya, born in 1858. The latter received his education at Calcutta under the guardianship of the veteran scholar, Dr. (Rajah) Rajendra Lal Mitra. When he was fourteen years old, he had a bereavement in the death of his mother.

The Court of Wards made over the management of the estate to him in 1878. He has travelled almost all over India and Ceylon. He is a good swimmer, an intrepid rider, and an excellent shot. He is a charming conversationalist. His knowledge of mechanics, medicine, drawing, and veterinary science, is admired by those who are highly skilled in them. He is handsome, strong, and well-built. He is amiable, affable, courteous, and polite to all. His moral character is unimpeachable. He is a staunch advocate of the social reform movement and is true to his convictions. He champions the cause of the helpless high caste Hindu widows and largely supports their re-marriage. He is a perfect tee-totaller and has brought up his children and the other members of his household as total abstainers. He grants monthly allowances to many of his deserving relations, and treats them very kindly. He is very loyal to the British Throne; the European and the Indian officials of the District have great regard for him, and consult him in all matters of public importance. He maintains an English High School at Naldanga, and a Middle School at Nohata. In memory of his father, Rajah Indu Bhushan Deb Roy, he has founded a scholarship at the Jessore Zilla School, and another to commemorate his mother, Rani Madhumati Debi, at Benares, for encouraging Sanskrit education. To

evince his sympathy with the Mahomedan public in a tangible form, he contributes towards the Mahomedan hostel attached to the Zilla School at Jessore. The Indu Bhushan Charitable Dispensary at his headquarters is supported mainly by himself, but the one at Nohata receives from Government a grant-in-aid of Rs. 460 per annum. All movements of public utility, whether started by Government or by private bodies, find in him a ready patron. He is very kind to his tenants and grants them redress without delay. He takes a keen interest in agriculture, horticulture, and cattle breeding.

Among the conferees of the new year's honours in 1913, the Rajah Saheb obtained the well-merited distinction of *Bahadur*.

The Rajah Bahadur is a very successful model landlord, and his brother Zamindars look up to him for counsel in important affairs. As a resident landlord he lives in the midst of his tenantry and exerts his best to improve the industry, agriculture, and commerce of the country around him.

The following extract from H. E. the Governor's speech delivered on the occasion of presenting him with the Sanad of the title of *Raja Bahadur* is worthy of note:—

I congratulate you very heartily on having received the title of "Rajah Bahadur" as a personal distinction on January 1st, in this year. You are a representative of a loyal and ancient family. The title of "Rajah" which was enjoyed by your ancestors was conferred by sanad upon your father in 1860, was continued to you on your father's death in 1885. You have invariably exercised your influence on the side of law and order. You have always been ready to help the local authorities with advice based on your ripe experience and intimate knowledge of the district to which you belong. You live the life of a country gentleman of the best type, and as a resident landlord you have made good use of your opportunities and have taken an enlightened interest in the well-being of your tenantry and in the encouragement of indigenous industrial enterprises. You have well merited the higher personal title of "Rajah Bahadur" which I hope you will long live to enjoy.

His sons, Kumars Pannaga Bhushana Deva Raya and Mriganka-Bhushana Deva Raya are cultured, well-behaved, and promising young men. The Raja Bahadur of Naldanga was born great, and has achieved greatness, and is destined to have it thrust on him.

COLONEL RAJAH JAI PRITHVI BAHADUR SINGH OF BAJANG

Bajang is an estate in the western part of Nepal and is situated at the foot of the Himalayas. Colonel Rajah Jai Prithvi Bahadur Singh, the present Rajah of Bajang, traces his descent to the ancient Chitore house of Rajputs that migrated to Nepal during the Mahomedan invasions when their religion was seriously menaced. The Rajah was born on the 21st August 1877 and is married to the only daughter of H. H. the Maharajah Sir Chandra Sham Shere Jung Bahadur Rana of Nepal. He was a representative of the Nepal Government in British India during the years 1903-05, and accompanied His Highness the Maharajah to Europe. The Rajah is a member of the Chief Court of Appeal, Nepal, and holds the honorary title of *Colonel*. He is in charge of the Government Press and edits the *Gorkhapatra* paper. He has translated and written many a book in his vernacular. Quite out of the way and far in the recess of the Himalayas as the estate of Bajang lies, the Rajah has, at any rate, tried his best to improve its internal conditions by introducing the modern methods of sanitation and education. He has recently opened a hospital and a vernacular school, the latter of which is certainly calculated to disseminate primary education.



RAJAH MUTHURAMALINGA SETHUPATHI
(RAJAH RAJA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI) OF RAMNAD

RAJAH MUTHURAMALINGA SETHUPATHI (RAJAH RAJA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI) OF RAMNAD

The Ramnad estate is a permanently settled zamindari in the District of Ramnad, Madras Presidency. It consists of five tahsils and has an area of 2,104 square miles, with a population of over 700,000. It has a rentroll of about seven lakhs of rupees. It is generally regarded as an important centre of Tamil learning and scholarship in South India.

Tradition has it that Rama, the deified King of Ayodia or Oudh, in implicit obedience to the order of his father, Dasaratha, undertook to make a tour round the greater portion of India. During his travels, his consort, Seetha, was carried away by Ravana, King of Ceylon; and when Rama learnt the fact, he could not go thither straight on account of the sea that intervened. Then a certain class of people, who resided on the coast, voluntarily offered their services and built a bridge (Sethu) over the sea, and thus enabled him to cross it and to proceed to Lanka, whither he went, vanquished his foe, and brought back his long-lost Seetha in safety. Rama, who was highly indebted to the residents near the sea for their most timely and spontaneous help, loudly exclaimed "maravoam" (we will never forget you); since then they are known as Marawars. It is also said that Marawars hailed from Marwar (Jodhpur), Rajputana, and settled down in Southern India.

The Chief of the Marawars is known as the Sethupathi (Lord of the Bridge) or Rajah of Ramnad. "The then Sethupathi line or Marawa dynasty of Ramnad," the Rev. J. E. Tracy writes, "claims great antiquity. According to popular legendary accounts, it had its rise in the time of the great Rama himself, who is said to have appointed, on his victorious return from Lanka, seven guardians of the passage of the bridge connecting it with the mainland. Another supposition places the rise of the family in the second or third century B. C. It rests principally upon a statement in the Mahawanso, according to which the last of the three Tamil invasions of Ceylon, which took place in the

second or third century B.C., was under the leadership of seven chieftains who are supposed, owing to the silence of the Pandian records on the subject of South Indian dealings with Ceylon, to have been neither Cheras, Cholas, nor Pandyans, but were local adventurers, whose territorial extremity and marauding ambition had tempted them to the undertaking."

Rama, it would appear, conferred the title of *Sethupathi* (Lord of the Causeway) on the most prominent member of the Marawars, and directed him to see to the safety of the pilgrims visiting Rameswaram, from the attacks of wild animals and from the marauders of the surrounding jungles. After Rama, the country of the Sethupathi came to be called Ramanathapuram.

In their letter to the Government of India, dated 13th June 1871, the Government of Madras say:—"The Sethupathi's family, of whom the Zamindar of Ramnad is the representative, is the head of the great tribe in Southern India, known as the Marawars. They were as feudatories of the Pandyan dynasty, upon whose ruins they rose for some generations with equal power, extending their conquests into all the southern portion of the peninsula and of the great part of Ceylon. But over and above all this, they are, as their name implies, the hereditary guardians of the sacred causeway of Rameswaram."

During the days of the southern kings, the authorities concerned appointed a family of seven persons who were permanent residents at Rameswaram as guards of that peninsula with Jayathunga Devar as their Chief. The latter had a son, Sadaika Devar, who won the favour of Tirumala Naick, the ruler of the Karnatic dominions, and obtained through him the principality of Ramnad with the honours and emoluments appertaining thereto. Sadaika Devar cleared the jungles, extirpated the robbers, and afforded all facilities to the pilgrims bound for Rameswaram. The Guru to the Naick king went on a pilgrimage thither, when Sadaika Devar was all attention to him. The appreciation of the Guru and the gratitude of the pilgrims served as passports for the future distinction of Sadaika Devar, who was, in course of time, raised to the position of Viceroy and Chief of the seventy-two Polegars under the Karnatic king. He maintained his exalted powers with consummate tact and dignity and restored order everywhere. He died in 1621 leaving four sons and one daughter and was succeeded by his eldest son, Kuthan Sethupathi.

After him came Sadaika Devar II. Internal dissensions rose high in 1646, when Tirumal Naick, King of Madura, intervened and divided the Ramnad territory into three parts and made over the first division including the town of Ramnad to Reghunatha Devar, the sister's son of Sadaika Devar II.

Reghunatha Sethupathi, also known as Tirumalai Sethupathi, ruled from 1647 to 1672. In 1659 the Mysoreans invaded Madura, when Reghunatha Sethupathi at the head of 25,000 men defeated them in battle. This act of valour was appreciated by Tirumala Naick, who gave Reghunatha Sethupathi valuable presents, and conferred on him the titles of "Tirumalai Sethupathi" and "Protector of the Queen's Thali", for having rescued his (king's) life from danger. He was also privileged to use the lion-faced palanquin, similar to the one kept in the royal house of Madura, and was exempted from paying tribute. The King of Madura further presented the Sethupathi with the Durgapidam (altar of the goddess Durga) and allowed him to celebrate the Navarathri "or the nine nights' festival" at Ramnad on the same scale and with the same grandeur as it was done at Madura. Accordingly the festival was taken up and continues to be celebrated every year with great *eclat*. The Sethupathi spent the major portion of his life at Rameswaram, where he performed the grand religious ceremony called "Hiranna Garbha Yagam," at a considerable expense. Hence he and his successors are known as *Hirannia Garbhayaji*.

Reghunatha Sethupathi (Kilavan Sethupathi) was the ruler of Ramnad from 1674 to 1710. He won the distinction of Para Raja Kesari (Lion among foreign Rajahs) from the King of Madura. He had forty-seven wives, the second of whom was a Kalla woman, named Kathali. After he married her, he made her brother, Reghunadha, Chief of Pudukkottai, with the title of *Tondiman*.

Tiruvadaya Devar (Vizia Reghunatha Devar), the next Chief of Ramnad, appointed his son-in-law to attend to the safety and convenience of the pilgrims on their way to Rameswaram and also in their wearisome march across the sands to Dhanushkoti. The latter levied a small boat fee on those that passed from the mainland to Rameswaram and back, and, from the amount collected, paved the weary eight miles of sandy road between Pamban and Rameswaram, with parallel rows of hard stone to the great comfort of all pedestrians. But this unauthorized levy of poll-tax greatly enraged the Sethupathi, who put his son-in-law to death despite the entreaties of his two daughters, who burned themselves alive with the dead body of their husband, and whose memory is still preserved in the two choultries, called Akkal (elder sister) and Thangachi (younger sister) Madam, between Pamban and Rameswaram.

Sella Muthu Vizia Reghunatha Sethupathi was the Chief of Ramnad from 1749 to 1762. He was succeeded by his sister's son, Muthuramalinga Devar, a baby of two months, with his mother as Regent. In 1792 the territory of Ramnad was ceded by a treaty to the British Government. Three

years after, Muthuramalinga Sethupathi was deposed as he showed a rebellious disposition against the English. On the 20th February 1803, Rani Mangaleswari Nachiyar, the sister of the deposed Rajah, was placed in full possession of the Ramnad zamindari. According to the terms of the Permanent Settlement, the Rani Sethupathi bound herself to pay to the British Government in perpetuity, the permanent annual peishcush of Rs. 3,24,404-3-10. She died in 1807, when she was succeeded by her adopted minor son, Annasawmy Sethupathi (Muthu Vizia Reghunath Sethupathi).

On the 23d April 1829, the Government of Madras handed over the management of the estate to Ramaswami Sethupathi, the brother-in-law and adopted son of the former ruler, but he died a year after assuming charge of it, leaving behind him his widow, Parvatha Vardhani Nachiyar, and two infant daughters, Mangaleswara Nachiyar and Doraraja Nachiyar. The latter died young, and the right of Parvathavardhani Nachiyar to the zamindari was recognised by the revenue authorities. In 1846 the Court of Wards accordingly entrusted its management to her. She was in charge of it from 1846 to 1862. In July 1846, she appointed her brother, Kottaiswami Devar, manager of the zamindari; and on the 24th May 1847, she adopted her sister's younger son, Muthuramalinga Devar. She died in 1871. Ponnuswami Devar, the brother of Muthuramalinga Sethupathi, had managed the affairs of the estate so well from December 1857 to May 1868 that, as a reward for his services and relationship, he had a sub-division conferred on him, comprising fourteen villages, the prominent of them being Palayampatti and Pandalgudi, with a peishcush of Rs. 24,680.

Sri Rajah Muthuramalinga Sethupathi was in charge of the zamindari from 1862 to 1873. As he had carried on litigations of a protracted nature down to 1868, the estate became heavily involved in debt. He died on the 21st February 1873, leaving behind him two minor sons, Bhaskaraswami Sethupathi and Dhinakaraswami Devar, and the estate was taken under the management of the Court of Wards on the 15th March. Before 1888, the whole of the debt with accumulated interest thereon amounting in all to Rs. 23,29,892, was paid off.

Sri Rajah Bhaskara Sethupathi was born in 1868. He acquired the first rudiments of learning under an Englishman, Mr. Vernor, and then joined the Christian College at Madras. Before he could take the degree, he came of age, and the Government of Madras called upon him to assume charge of his estate. All his teachers discerned in him a notable love of hard work for its own sake. As became a promising young nobleman who was destined to make a mark in the annals of South India

he spared neither time nor trouble in equipping himself for the carrying out of his high aims. He left the college with the reputation of being one of its brightest ornaments. He was an effective speaker, terse, clear, and vigorous at all times, and his public utterances were always characterised by remarkable power. Those who had had the privilege of a personal acquaintance with him, never failed to derive pleasure whenever he spoke on any question of importance. The dignity and courtesy which, as a rule, graced his manners, fitted him well for the position he held as a premier nobleman of the Southern Districts. Remarkable for his varied knowledge in the different arts and sciences, he promoted the cause of Tamil literature by his liberal patronage. Notwithstanding his high accomplishments, he failed to be economical, spent far beyond his income, and maintained a court above the dignity of his situation, which brought on himself a multiplicity of embarrassments. After a brief illness he passed away on the 27th December 1903, at a comparatively young age, leaving behind him two sons, and the elder of whom, Rajah Muthuramalinga Sethupathi (Rajah Raja Rajeswara Sethupathi), who was a ward under the Collector of Madura, succeeded to the estate on the 3rd June 1910. He is now President of the Madura Tamil Sangam. Like his father he is very civil and kind to all, and has begun to take a deal of interest in the promotion of Tamil language and literature. He maintains a High School at his headquarters. He talks English well and bids fair to be a successful and popular nobleman.

SRI UDAYA VARMA RAJAH OF CHIRAKKAL

Five miles north of the lovely town of Cannanore, not far from the mouth of the Baliapatam river, there stands even to this day the beautiful palace of the Chirakkal Rajahs, generally known as the Kolathiries, overlooking a big tank (a sort of miniature lake). The row of buildings, as they are reflected on the silvery water, is most charming. Sri Udaya Varma Rajah, the present head of the Chirakkal House, attained that position, on the demise of his predecessor, the late lamented Kerala Varma Rajah, on the 20th March 1911.

The present Rajah, like most of his illustrious ancestors, is a good Sanscrit scholar and has, besides the unique distinction of being the first of that famous line who has any pretensions to English culture, a quiet and unostentatious manner. He has exceedingly simple habits, and is by nature a God-fearing and merciful person. He applies himself heart and soul to the proper management of the affairs of his estate and has nothing nearer to his heart than the welfare of his subjects. He is forty-five years old, and God willing, he is bound to have a bright future before him with increased opportunities for doing good and useful work.

Till about a hundred and thirteen years ago, the Chirakkal Rajahs were rulers of the northern part of Kerala (Malabar). In 1798-99, the British Government assumed the management and granted to the Rajahs political allowance known as *Malikhana*, fixed at one-fifth of the then ascertained revenue of the annexed territory. The country at the time was comparatively small, being but a fraction of the extensive kingdom that was under their rule for centuries.

The Rajahs are to this day the social and religious heads of the Hindus (both Brahmin and non-Brahmin) of North Malabar and are the final judges in all questions of a social character. The Nambudri Pads, the Embrandiries, the Nambidies, nay all classes of Brahmins of North Malabar, are under the special control of the Chirakkal Rajah who alone has any right to enquire into the social and religious disputes connected



THE RAJAH OF CHIRAKKAL

with them and pass the necessary orders. Even cases of unchastity among the ladies of the aforementioned twice-born classes are tried and the offenders punished according to custom by the Rajah himself. Over the Mahomedan community of North Malabar also, the Chirakkal Rajahs exercise potent influence, and the Valiya Rajah confers on them the title of Khazi or the high priest of the most ancient and prominent Jamath Mosque at Baliapatam.

The Chirakkal House is very closely related to the Travancore family. The northern Kolathiries and southern Kolathiries, as they are respectively called, observe pollution when a death or birth takes place in their respective Houses. The southern House was in fact saved several times from utter extinction by adoptions made from the northern House. The two Royal families are Kshatriyas by caste and enjoy the privileges of free intercourse with the highest class of Nambudri Brahmins. In the book entitled "The Census in India", a lucid description is given of their family, caste, origin, and caste rites. It is stated in it that they belong to the twice-born class and are of the Yajur Veda branch, and it adds that they have all the sixteen rites (Shodasha Kiriya) which are allowed only to the members of the twice-born class. The family is thus of a purely Kshatriya origin.

To trace the origin and development of this House is in fact to trace the dawn and progress of the world. As remarked by Justice Moore in his Malabar Law (page 6), the Chirakkal Rajah and the Travancore Rajah, who belongs to a branch of the same family, form perhaps the oldest aristocracy in the world.

The paucity of sufficient and reliable data for tracing the history of so ancient and interesting a Royal house is very much to be regretted. There are indeed a good many old books containing references to it ; but the difficulty of getting at the central fact, around which time and oriental imagination have built up a highly graphic and sometimes inconsistent account, is extremely overpowering. One salient fact, however, should not be lost sight of (which unfortunately is the case in historical investigations), namely, that even the most extravagant and voluminous story is built on the bed-rock of a single incident that was really true.

The three most important rulers of Southern India in olden times were the Chera, Chola, and Pandya. Chera was the ruler of Malabar and the adjoining territories. The most ancient classical name for Malabar is Cheralam, (Cheral, the mountain range), or by a change under the influence of Canarese, of *Cha* to *Ka* (*e. g.* Chevi-ear, Kivi-ear).

Till modern researches revealed more facts, it was found difficult to form even a tolerably accurate view of the extent of the country that was under the sway of the Chera Kings in the pre-historic period. The theory,

now almost generally accepted, of a vast continent contiguous to the southern and western shores of the peninsula submerged centuries ago, is in favour of assigning a much larger extent of country to each of these kings than is generally conceded. For instance, a local tradition confirmed by geographical and geological evidence asserts that Ceylon was separated from the mainland by a hurricane in the fifteenth century. Of the several puranas making mention of the Chera Kings only a few need be noticed here. Agnipurana, in referring to the Kings of Chera, mentions them as the descendants of Dushyantha. Vishnu Purana also alludes to them but not as the children of Dushyantha. The Bhavishyat Purana prophesies the end of the government of the Kshatriya Kings of both races with the exception of Kshatriya Kings of Kerala and the rule of Kerala by the Kshatriya King of Travancore and Cola. The celebrated and popular work, called Harivamsa, also states that Dushyanta's son, King Guryamen or Karendhamen, had four sons, called Pandyan, Kerlan, Solen and Kolen, and that the southern part of India was divided among them The divisions were called after their names Pandya, Kerala, Sola, and Kola. "In the tenth generation after Durvasu, four brothers divided the Peninsula among them; they being respectively named Pandya, Cerala, Cola, and Chola, of which Cola had the most northern portion."

We have fortunately a more reliable old work with better claims to historical authenticity. Pura Nanuru contains a collection of poems written in honour of the earliest Chera Sovereigns known to Tamil literature by a contemporary poet, Mudi-Naga-Royar of Muringiur. It is of a purely historical character and has reference to more than twenty Chera Kings, most of whom have the title of Cherladan or Cheral-Irum-porrai.

The Chera King, whose name it sought to commemorate, was of such unlimited wealth that he could, during the Mahabaratha war, feed the rival hosts till the close of the campaign.

This unparalleled hospitality brought to him the distinction, Perum-Chottu-Udayan (the great rice giver), one of the titles of the Chera Kings that have been handed down to posterity. Time out of mind, the Chera Kings have had the reputation of unbounded charity. Charity has been their household god. The fact that the Chirakkal Rajahs even now worship *Anna Purani Amma* or the food-showering-goddess as their family deity bears additional testimony to their charity and their Chera origin.

The Chirakkal Rajah maintains the ancient Wadi of his house even to-day; for he supplies food to the Brahmins, while he gives only rice to 860 travellers and the destitute poor, thus providing on the whole 910 souls with maintenance. In view of the munificent charity displayed by the

present Rajah even under these greatly altered conditions, there is nothing strange in the fact that an ancient Chera King who was ruler of an extensive territory fed a large army.

Eminent Tamil scholars have, after an exhaustive investigation, concluded that the author of Pura Nanuru and his hero must have lived at the time of the great war. The most accepted date for the war, according to Mr. Velandi Gopala Iyer, is 1176 B. C. If this is to be believed, nearly thirty-one centuries have now elapsed since Cheraman-Perum-Chottu-Udayan Cheralathan and his court poet lived. Whether we accept the great war as a fact and the date ascribed to it, the antiquity of the book itself is unquestioned. Its hero *viz.*, Chera King, must have, doubtless, been known to its author at such an early period, and the Chera dynasty is of the same age as that of the book.

From a very remote period Malabar has enjoyed extensive trade with the western world in pepper, spices and other articles of value. These attracted the foreign nations to Malabar. Its commerce was chiefly with the Mediterranean ports. Malabar, therefore, came to be known to the west several years before the Christian Era Owing to this intercourse it has become possible to obtain some external evidence regarding the history of the country two or three centuries before Christ. The external evidence properly begins with the Greek invasion of 327 B. C. The records of the period seem to show that Malabar was at that time a country of considerable importance. Megasthenese Indica 2,000 years ago, describes the Kola (Kerala) as Graeturae (Kolathiries), Nairs as Narae, and Chera as Chermae. It may be presumed from what he has recorded that the extensive Chera kingdom has by this time undergone a division into Chera proper and Kolathiri, perhaps after the fashion of the Malabar tarwads.

In the thirteenth century the Venetian traveller, Marco Polo, mentions Eli and Melibar. Eli was a separate kingdom and was the ancient capital of the Kola State.

It will thus be seen that from a very remote period the vast kingdom of Chera, which embraced Malabar, Coimbatore and the adjoining country and had its capital once at Karur, was gradually growing smaller and smaller. By the time of which we have reliable accounts, Keralam extended from Gokarnam to Cape Comorin. Later still, we see Kerala dwindled into Malabar proper and was under the united sway of Travancore and Kolathiri. North Kolathiri's country lay as far south as the Elathur Turasseri river; and till the twelfth century A. D, they owned also the Laccadive Islands and a few more.

Kerala Mahatmia describes Kerala as having been first under the rule of the united Travancore and Kolathiri dynasty till the two became gradually independent as noticed elsewhere.

SRI KRISHNA VARMA RAJAH
OF KADATHANAD

Sri Krishna Varma Rajah, the senior Thampuran of Kadathanad, who leads a most respectable and noble life, was born on the 18th day of Thula, in the Malayalam year of 1030 (about 1845). Soon after his birth, he had a severe attack of smallpox, from which malady he had a narrow escape though hundreds of people fell victims to the epidemic every day. When he was five years of age, a capable man was appointed his tutor, and his maternal uncle, whose successor he was to be, took special interest in his educational attainments and in the formation of his character. He studied with unremitting energy for a period of ten years, and acquired proficiency in Medicine, Hindu Theology, Astrology, Therapeutics and Pathology, and Logic and Grammar. He would have extended his range of studies but for an abrupt interference as he was entrusted with the management of the affairs of the Ayancheri Palace. On the death of his uncle in 1876, he became the senior member of the Palace. Three years later, he was put in charge of the Kuttipuram Palace, the residence of the senior Thampuran of Kadathanad. The junior Thampuran passed away in 1071 M. E., and the following year witnessed his assumption of the powers of the patriarchal office of the senior Thampuran, which he still holds to the entire satisfaction of his numerous relations and tenants.

The number of choultries he has set up and liberally endowed, and the large donations and charities he gives, no less than the temples he has built and financed, bear ample testimony to his well-directed philanthropy and munificence. Above all, he maintains a secondary school at a great cost, and has entrusted its management to one of the most enlightened princes of Malabar, his nephew, Sri Sankara Varma Rajah, who walks in the footsteps of his uncle.

Sir Sankara Varma Rajah seems to have a more useful career than the distinguished Rajah of Kadathanad. Under his management, the school promises to assume still larger dimensions, and the senior Thampuran, having discovered the business knack of his nephew, has assigned to him the management of Kuttipuram, in addition to the duty he has to discharge as the senior member of the Ayancheri Palace. He is a man of strong will with excellent principles.

Sri Krishna Varma Rajah of Kadathanad, who is three score years and ten, maintains the reputation of the illustrious family, of which he is the head, by his numerous benefactions. His nephew, Sri Sankara Varma Rajah, bids fair to be his worthy successor.

SRI WALLUVANATTUKARA VALLABHA VALIYA RAJAH OF WALLUVANAD

The Vallabha Valiya Rajah, popularly known as Walluvakonadri, Lord of Walluvanad, is the chief of the Walluvanattukara Swaroopam, or Arangottu Swaroopam. This ancient historic family has played a leading part in the annals of Malabar and has maintained its high position to the present day.

Walluvanad means the country belonging to the Walluvars or Pallavas. Tradition says that a member of the Pallava dynasty was brought to Malabar, and was given the country now comprising the whole of Walluvanad, and parts of Palghat, Ponnani, and Ernad Taluks. The exact extent of the kingdom is not known. Another version is that a number of Pallavas migrated to the West Coast and settled down there. There is also another account that the Walluvanad family is of pre-historic origin, and flourished long before the time of the birth of Christ. They are of Kshatriya caste and belong to the small section of those kings of old who had escaped from the sword of Parasurama.

During the time of the great Cheraman Perumal of the Chera Kingdom, Wallatri Rajah, like the other chieftains of the West Coast, owed allegiance to him. It was the custom then, among the local rulers or Chiefs of Travancore, Cochin, Kolathiri (Chirakkal), Kurampranad, and Arangottu Swaroopam (Walluvanad) to meet once in twelve years during the great Mahamakham festival for the election of their overlord. The religious festival was celebrated in the temple of Thirunavai, as is now done at Kumbakonam, once in twelve years, in the month of Kumbhum (February-March). Thirunavai temple is situated on the northern bank of the sacred Bharatha river (Palghat -Ponnani river), close to the Railway station of Edakulam on the south-west line, S. I. Ry. Besides the religious festivities, which ran on for twenty-seven days, a conference was also held of the various territorial chieftains mentioned above for the election of their overlord for a period of twelve years. The President of the con-

ference was their Sovereign. Religious, political and social matters were discussed, and disputes and differences settled or adjusted, land tenures were renewed, and all knotty questions of civil or criminal nature were solved by the President, whose decision was final. Cheraman Perumal, the last of the Perumals, by his liberal and impartial views, gained the love and esteem of the chieftains and their followers. Although an elected sovereign at first, he gradually assumed all the powers of an independent ruler of the West Coast. He is said to have ruled over Malabar for the long period of thirty-six years, to the great satisfaction of the people. He embraced the Moslem faith in the end and went on a pilgrimage to Mecca. Before he left the West Coast on his religious journey, he summoned all the chiefs and redistributed the territories to them. Walluvanad Rajah got a large portion—the land lying between the Bharatha and the Attapadi Valley, and portions in the Ernad, Ponnani, and Palghat Taluks. The Zamorin of Calicut got only a small piece of land, and his request for more resulted in his obtaining the gift of Perumal's sword with the advice to die, to kill, and to annex. His shield was given to the Wallatri Rajah, and the title of "Arongottu Udayar" was also conferred upon him. The right to preside over the great Mahamakham assembly was conceded to him. This was a sign of the special influence and predominance which the Wallatri Rajah possessed over the other chieftains of Malabar. Even to-day the "Azhencheri Thamprakal", the spiritual head of the Numbudri Brahmins, proceeds to the Walluvanad Rajah's palace at Kuruva to perform the installation ceremony viz., Ariyittuvazcha (the pouring of the sacred rice), while in the case of the other Rajahs of Malabar, they have to go to the Tamprakal's temporary residence for it.

The Wallatri Rajah had under him a large number of nobles, the chief of them being, Mannarmala Rajah, Patinjarkara Rajah, Kizhakekare Rajah, Mannarghat Nair, Kannamprah Nair, or Vettikat Nair, Kongat Nair, Edathra Nair, Mannoor Nair, Thrikkadiri Nair, Kunderakal Nair, and Kakooth Nair. They owed allegiance to him and supplied him with men and money in times of war. The hereditary Prime Minister of the Wallatri Rajah was Karuvayur Moopinnu, whose residence was at the fort of Kottakal (a town with a fort), which was afterwards captured by the Zamorin of Calicut, and where, at the present day, a branch of his family resides.

The army of the Wallatri Rajah consisted of 150,000 sepoys, under the command of fourteen Swaroopies, *i. e.*, Generals. Kolathur Warrior, who was one of the Generals, had under his command an army of 14,000 men.

The departure of the Cheraman Perumal was the signal for incursions

on the part of the Zamorin of Calicut. He attacked Cochin with the help of the Jonakan Moplas or Moors, who had settled down on the Coast during the time of the Perumal. Wallatri Rajah helped the Rajah of Cochin with his forces. The restless and aggressive Zamorin, who was left out in the cold by the end of the eighteenth century, made himself master of the neighbouring lands and now turned his attention to Walluvanad. The Zamorin and the Wallatri Rajah were hereditary enemies, and they kept up a constant warfare for a number of years, which ended in the loss of a portion of the latter's territory. As time passed, the dynasty of the Wallatri Rajah became weak, while that of the Zamorin rose in power and importance. With the advent of foreigners, trade flourished, pepper and cocoanut, the chief products of the West Coast, bringing large profits to the Zamorin. The interior of Walluvanad was shut off from the coast. The later descendants of the Wallatri family were not able to assert their rights. The chieftains set up independent principalities. Some of them acknowledged the suzerainty of the Zamorin, who now began to assume large powers. The right to preside over the Mahamakham festival was also claimed by the Zamorin in 1743, when the last attempt was made to celebrate it. The Wallatri Rajah did not recognise his overlordship, but sent a small contingent of chavars or war-men, headed by the famous Chendrathil Panikar, (one of the generals mentioned above), specially elected and supposed to have been under the direct inspiration of the holy "Family goddess of Thirumanthan kunnu". The upshot of the whole incident was that the festival was no more heard of. In the eighteenth century the Mysorean invasion took place. Wallatri Rajah, like other Rajahs, fearing defeat and religious persecution at the hands of the Moslem invaders, fled to Travancore, where he met with a friendly reception. After the downfall of Tippu, the Rajah with his family returned to his own territory with the promise of protection from the East India Company. The country was formally handed over to the Company in 1798, the latter agreeing to pay a *malikhana* to the family.

This then is a short sketch of the Walluvanad family from the time of the Cheraman Perumal to that of the East India Company. It is unfortunate that the history of the great family is not so carefully written, or so well known, as that of other dynasties, for the domains lay in the interior of the district, and the foreigners, from whom we glean any reliable information concerning Malabar in those troublous days, had no temptation to explore the inland parts. Ever since the assumption of the administration of the country by the Company and then by the Crown, the Royal family of Walluvanad has been recognised both by the rulers and by the people as an important aristocratic factor in the district. They

are the " Natural Leaders " of the people in the strict sense of the term. They are still the arbiters in settling social and religious disputes among the various communities in the taluk.

The family is now divided into four branches, Mankada, Ayiranazhi, Kattannamannah, and Aripiah Kovilagams, of which Mankada is the most influential and important. There are five sthanams in the family excluding the two reserved for the senior ladies or Thampuratties.

It is customary to set apart certain of the Swaroopum's property for the life-enjoyment of the senior members. The separate estates thus created are called *sthanams.* The word means dignity, and denotes the status of the senior members of the family, the idea being that separate estates are assigned to enable them to maintain their position. The sthanams are enjoyed in succession by the several members of the family, as they succeed to the position to which they are attached. The five sthanams are respectively called, Walluvanad Vallabha Valiya Rajah, Vellarpad, Thacharpad, Edathralpad, and Kolathur. Each Kovilagam is under the management of its senior lady or Thampuratti, the system of succession being Marumakkathayam. A sthani-holder has no right over the Kovilagam or Thavazhi property. He has only a life-interest in the estate and cannot alienate it except for the benefit of the family as a whole.

The present Valia Rajah belongs to the Ayiranazhi Kovilagam. He is aged seventy He attained his sthanam in 1078 Edavan (May 1903). He is a profound Sanskrit scholar. He takes a real delight in helping the poor and the needy. He has visited many places of interest, as Benares and Rameswaram. He went to Madras at the time of the visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, in 1906. Owing to indifferent health and old age, he could not accept the Government invitation to be present at the recent Imperial Delhi Durbar. The management of his sthanam estate is now entrusted to his energetic and capable nephew, Bhanu Rajah. The Kovilagam and Thirumandhankunnu temples were rebuilt by him. The second Rajah belongs to the same Kovilagam.

Among the other prominent members of the family are M. C. Krishna Varma Rajah, and Uadaya Varma Rajah of Mankada, and A. C. Kunhunni Rajah, B. A., B. L., of Ayiranazhi. The former two are well known for their enthusiasm in the cause of Elementary Education in the district. They are the prime movers in the organization and working of the "Mankada Elementary Education League". There is not a single public movement in the district with which their names are not associated. Their activities are many-sided, educational, social, agricultural, and political. Although aristocratic by birth, their habits, temperament

and liberal views show their genuine love for the common people. Krishna Varma Rajah has been a Taluk Board Member and an elected District Board Member for the last eight years. He has recently been appointed Vice-President of the Malappuram Taluk Board. He is a young and enterprising nobleman, well-educated, and popular with all classes, and adored by the tenantry.

A cousin of his, and nephew of the Valiya Rajah, is A. C. Kunhunni Rajah of Ayiranazhi Kovilagam. He is the first Bachelor of Laws of the Madras University among the aristocratic families of Malabar, and has, in the face of public opinion and prejudice, boldly set an example to the rest by adopting the learned profession of law.

The temple of Thirumandhan Kunnu is dedicated to the goddess Parvati, and is of very ancient origin. This is one of the important temples of Malabar. The Walluvanad family and people are much attached to it. All the members of the family are extremely God-fearing and thoroughly loyal to the British Government.

RAJAH RAM NARAIN SINGH OF PADMA

To trace the family history of Rajah Ram Narain Singh of Padma we have to go back to A. D. 1368. Two of his ancestors, Baghdeo Singh and Singhdeo Singh, who were brothers, had come to this part of the country from Khairagarh Kantit in Bundelkhand, Central India, with a view to conquer and settle in it. Without any difficulty, they were able to invade the Parganas of Karanpura and Babhunbai,and built a large fort at Urda in Karanpura, traces of which are still to be seen. Their successors, not content with the small area of which they were masters, enlarged it by *attacking and conquering the neighbouring Rajahs.* The tracts thus acquired comprised an area of about five thousand square miles. From 1368 to 1402, Maharajah Baghdeo Singh ruled at Urda, which was his chief residence. He was succeeded by Maharajah Keerat Singh who reigned up to 1459. Next came Maharajah Ram Singh, who after a long reign of seventy-eight years, died in 1537. After him, Maharajah Madho Singh ruled over the country from 1537 to 1554. Maharajah Jagut Singh was the last Chief at Urda, who exercised sway until 1604, two hundred and thirty-six years after the foundation of the principality.

The seat of the Raj was removed from Urda to Badam in the Pargana of Karanpura by Maharajah Hemat Singh (1604-1661). He was followed by Maharajah Ram Singh II, who sat on the *gadi* up to 1677. The capital remained at Badam for seventy-three years. Some portions of the fort there are still preserved. After Ram Singh II, Dalail Singh became Maharajah in 1677. He removed his headquarters to Ramgurh in the Pargana of Changadda, where he built a large fort on the southern bank of the Damodar. He died in 1724, leaving Maharajah Bishun Singh as his successor. On the death of the latter in 1763, Maharajah Makund Singh became Chief, and was the last ruler that remained at Ramgurh, which had been the residence of the successive rulers for a period of 105 years, from 1667 to 1772.

Thakur Tej Singh, a descendant of Singh Deo Singh, was the Commander (Fouzdar) of his army. About 1772 a dispute arose between the Maharajah and Thakur Tej Singh. The latter fled from Ramgurh to Azeemabad (Patna), and sought assistance from the officers of the East

India Company, who were stationed there. They sent an expedition against Maharajah Mukund Singh, who was defeated in 1772; and Ramgarh Raj, which had so long been ruled by independent Maharajahs, now fell into the hands of Tej Singh, who agreed to pay to the Company Rs 28,023-3-5 annually. Thakur Tej Singh made Ichak his residence, and he died shortly afterwards. Maharajah Tej Singh was succeeded by Maharajah Parasnath Singh in 1774, and after him came Maharajah Maninath Singh in 1784. He died in 1811 leaving Maharajah Sidhnath Singh as his successor. On his death in 1835, Maharajah Lachminath Singh became the ruler, and reigned till 1841, when Maharajah Shambunath Singh succeeded to the *gadi*. The last Maharajah of Ichak was Maharajah Ramnath Singh in 1866. A posthumous child, Triloknath Singh, was born to him, but it did not live for more than two months. The ruins of the fort at Ichak may still be seen.

After Triloknath Singh, Babu Bramh Narain Singh of Padma, the grandfather of the present Rajah, became the rightful owner of the estate, but the Maharani, the widow of Maharajah Ramnath Singh, and another asserted their claims for the raj. Babu Bramh Narain Singh instituted a suit against them, which went up to the Privy Council. While it was pending disposal, the plaintiff died. His son, Babu Nam Narain Singh, continued the litigation and came out successful.

Rajah Nam Narain Singh took charge of the estate from the Court of Wards on the 23rd November 1873 and made Padma his headquarters. According to the family custom, he granted a maintenance allowance (khorposh) to his three younger brothers. His Rani, Ram Kuari, also got some villages from him, in accordance with the same custom, for her private expenses, and they lapsed to the Raj when she died on the 30th November 1910. Rajah Nam Narain Singh left two sons, of whom the elder is the present Rajah, who succeeded his father on the 6th February 1899. The personal distinction of *Rajah* was conferred on him in 1905. He has a son, Tikait Lachmi Narain Singh, born on the 6th April 1898.

The income of the estate, which is rich in mineral products, amounts to four lakhs. According to the family custom the eldest son succeeds to the *gadi* and the younger sons receive maintenance allowances. Females are excluded from the succession. The Khorposhdars being dependent on the raj, they have to remain faithful and loyal to it and have no right to transfer or alienate the properties given to them. The Rajah has the power to resume Khorposh grants on the extinction of the male line of the original grantee, or if he proves disloyal or becomes in any way unfaithful to the raj.

RAJAH GOBIND PRASAD SINGH OF RANKA

Rajah Gobind Prasad Singh of Ranka belongs to a well-known ancient Chamargor Rajput family of the lunar race and of the Garg gotra. The Gor tribe was once respected in Rajasthan. The ancient Kings of Bengal were of this race and gave their name to the capital "Lucknowti." They are styled in all the old chronicles the "Gors of Ajmere." Repeated mention is made of them in "Bhabishya Puran" and "Wars of Prithvi Raj," as leaders of considerable renown, and one of them founded a small estate at Supur in the centre of India, yielding about £ 5,000 annually, which survived through seven centuries of Moghul domination. The members of this illustrious family are called Surwars (so called from their wonted heroism in wars), whose primitive home was at Supur.

Rajah Dushsaan Singh, the founder of the renowned family, made over Supur to his younger brother, took service under Akbar the Great, the Emperor of Delhi, and became in course of time the Commander of the royal army. He made several conquests and obtained from the Emperor some distinctive dress as a mark of honour and a grant of the talukas of Bagaha, Adulpura, and Pathalgarh, in the District of Mirzapur, and also the whole of Kirat Pargana and of the Talukas of Dhandand and Tilothu in Sasseram Pargana. His son, Rajah Sarangdhar, had a castle erected at Dhandand and was also in possession of the royal fortress of Rohtas. He was succeeded by his son, Rajah Deo Sahi. It was during this time that the Chero Chief, Bhagwant Rai, sustained a defeat by a force despatched by Jahangir at Morang, Tirhut, and Bhojpur respectively, and then took refuge with the Rajput Chief, Deo Sahi, who held the fort of Dhandand, a village near Sasseram. Thakurai Puranmal, the younger brother of Rajah Deo Sahi, took Bhagwant Rai with himself and marched to Palamau, which was then ruled by the Raksels, the ancestor of the present Maharajah of Sirguja in the Central Provinces. Thakurai Puranmal conquered Palamau and had Rajah

Bhagwant Rai installed on the *gadi* in 1813. An agreement was entered into between them, that thenceforward it would rest only with the Thakurais to manage the country and to select a future Rajah of Palamau from among the descendants of Bhagwant Rai. Accordingly the Thakurais continued to exercise the power of virtual king-makers until the British conquest. During this period of the Chero rule, their influence was recognised by the Moghul Emperors, who often entrusted them with the conduct of wars and favoured the heads of the family with several jaghir grants, which are well borne out by the Firmans of the Emperors Alamgir, Muhammad Shah, and Furrukhsiyar. The Thakurais, Kirat Singh, Kanak Singh, and Nait Lal Singh, the great-great-grandsons of Thakurai Puranmal, had so endeared themselves to the Moghul Emperor that they were allowed the special privilege of standing near the platform of the imperial throne.

Thakurai Amar Singh, son of Thakurai Kirat Singh, one of the most famous of the line, headed a rebellion in 1721 against the Chero Chief Ranjit Rai, defeated him in battle, and set up Jaikrishna Rai in his place. He also defeated the Pindarees during one of their raids on the borders of Palamau. He had three sons, of whom the last one died childless. His second son was Thakurai Bhaktaur Singh, whose descendants live at Chainpur; and the eldest son, Thakurai Sakat Singh, the ancestor of the Rajah of Ranka, was succeeded by his son, Thakurai Sanath Singh, who secured the royal favour and subsequently obtained an imperial grant of a revenue-free tenure of twenty-seven villages in Tappa Chhetki, which has in due course descended to the present Rajah. When he was treacherously put to death by Rajah Jaikrishna Rai, his son, Thakurai Sheoprasad Singh, then a boy of sixteen summers, collected an army, defeated and killed Jaikrishna Rai near Chetma Hill in 1764, and placed Chitrajit Rai on the throne. Shortly after this, the feuds of the Cheros led to the intervention of the British. For a long time the country was in a state of disturbance owing to the struggles between rival factions for the chiefship. Captain Camac, the Government Agent at Patna, sent a considerable force for quelling it. Thakurai Sheoprasad Singh gave loyal aid towards the conquest, and Gopal Rai, Rajah of Palamau, became a vassal of the British. Though the British had assumed the government of the country, it was not till many years later that anything like settled order and organised administration could be introduced. No sooner had Captain Camac left the State than the Rajah, Gopal Rai, had his kanongo barbarously murdered. The relatives of the murdered man applied for help to the British who had a small detachment of their troops quartered at Lesliegunj. The detachment marched to Shahpore where Gopal Rai

had built a new palace. At this time too Thakurai Sheoprasad Singh was prompt and foremost in rendering loyal and valuable service to the Government and restored peace in Palamau by keeping up at his own expense a body of 400 men with a view to assist the Government Agent, Mr. J. Crawford. Gopal Rai was taken prisoner and sent to Chatra for trial, where he died in 1784. His successor, Basant Rai, dying in the same year, his brother, Churaman Rai, was raised to his place. In reward for the services rendered to the Government by Thakurai Sheoprasad Singh at this juncture, the zamindari rent was reduced to a nominal sum of Rs. 800. During the minority of Rajah Churaman Rai, Thakurai Sheoprasad Singh was vested with all the powers of a Ruling Chief throughout the Pargana of Palamau during the regime of Lord Cornwallis in 1787, and he always satisfied the authorities by the faithful discharge of his duties.

On coming of age, Churaman Rai was quite unable to manage his estate, and a general insurrection broke out in A. D. 1800. On the appearance of Colonel H. Jones with a detachment, the insurgents fled to Sirguja, but, receiving support there, infested Palamau so that, in 1801, it became necessary to march two battalions into Sirguja in order to enforce adequate reparation for their outrages. In the next year, Thakura Sheoprasad Singh was employed for upwards of six months with Lt. Col. F. Jones on the said Sirguja Campaign in the Mahratta Country, during which time he conducted himself in a most creditable manner at great personal loss and inconvenience to himself. The extravagance and incapacity of Rajah Churaman Rai gradually reduced him to a state of bankruptcy and brought the administration into disorder. In 1814 arrears having accumulated to the amount of Rs. 55,700, the pargana was brought to the hammer and purchased by the Government for Rs. 51,000. At this time, Thakurai Basant Singh, son and successor of Thakurai Sheoprasad Singh, greatly assisted the Government in making the settlement of Palamau and obtained from the British in March 1824 a certificate of honour and a turban in appreciation of his valuable services.

Thakurai Basant Singh was succeeded by his son, Rai Thakurai Krishna Dayal Singh Bahadur, who, with his nephew, Thakurai Deonath Singh, the father of the present Rajah, bravely fought with and defeated the mutineers at Penli, Bahahara, Palamau-Killa, Gugurmunda ghat, and Baghwar, at the time of the Bhogta insurrection in 1857, and gave cordial support to the Government in quelling the disturbance and capturing and arresting Bhogtas, Pitamber Sahi, Lilambar Sahi, and four others. In 1858 the said Rai Bahadur rendered valuable assistance to the Government by arresting and capturing several

of the rebels and also defended the Balgarh Thana against a body of 900 men, when the Government of Bengal greatly appreciated his valour and gallantry. In recognition of his services, the British Government was pleased to confer on him the title of *Rai Bahadur*, with a khillat consisting of a rifle, a pearl necklace, and some distinctive dress, and an Inami jaghir grant of Tappa Barkol, comprising twenty-one villages. In June 1860, the Rai Bahadur was appointed an Honorary Assistant Magistrate. In October 1869, he gave the people of his estate a liberal relief during the great scarcity by constructing a gola at Panki,at a considerable cost, in recognition of which he was invited to attend the Durbar held at Bankipore, Patna, in honour of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, on the 4th January 1876.

Rai Thakurai Krishna Dayal Singh Bahadur died without issue. The only heir to his estate was his younger brother, Thakurai Mahipal Singh, who died during the life-time of the Rai Bahadur. He had three sons, Thakurai Deonath Singh, Rai Thakurai Jadunath Singh Bahadur, and Thakurai Dwarka Prasad Singh. Thakurai Janki Prasad Singh, the eldest son of Thakurai Deonath Singh, who had died prematurely some two or three years before the death of the Rai Bahadur, was raised to the *gadi*. The present Raj family of Ranka consists of the sons and grandsons of Thakurai Mahipal Singh, and all the members of this family have maintained the loyalty and public spirit displayed by their forefathers.

Thakurai Janki Prasad Singh assisted Government in subjugating the rebellious Korwas, a tribe inhabiting the uncultivated parts of the Political State of Sirguja. He was invited to attend the Durbar held at Ranchi in commemoration of the assumption of the title of *Empress of India* by Queen Victoria in 1877, and was presented with a certificate of honour in recognition of his loyalty and of the services rendered to Government by his deceased father and uncle. He was ever willing to stand by the Government on all occasions.

The present head of the family is Rajah Gobind Prasad Singh, brother of the deceased Thakurai Janki Prasad Singh. He maintains at his own cost an English school and a charitable dispensary at Ranka,which have been of the greatest benefit to the ryots of his estate, and he has set an example to the other landholders of this district to be liberal in their benefactions. He opened relief works in the famines of 1890 and 1897 for the protection of the poor and spent several thousands of rupees in opening earth works and building works for the same purpose. He has contributed liberally for the construction of Elliot-well, Fraser Water Works, and Victoria and Edward memorials at Daltonganj. There is no public institution in this District that does not receive his contribution. His public spirit and loyalty were well spoken of by Sir Andrew Fraser,

Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, when he invested him with the title of *Rajah* at Belvedere in April 1907. To quote his words :—

Rajah Gobind Prasad Singh of Palamau is a leading Zamindar, and belongs to one of the oldest families in that part of the country. He is a considerate Zamindar and exercises a good influence over his ryots and the people generally. He has been especially generous in times of famine and distress.

His loyal and public services have been recognised by Government by their bestowing upon him the title of *Rai Bahadur* in 1896, and subsequently the title of *Rajah* in 1907. The Rajah is a fearless rider and a keen sportsman who, in his own jungles, gave H E. the Earl of Minto his first tiger in India, in February 1906. He was invited as one of the representatives from the Province of Bengal to attend the Imperial Coronation Durbar at Delhi, and was elected as a member of the Imperial Reception Executive Committee at Calcutta. The Rajah was born in 1862 and installed in 1886, and his life has since been one of continued devotion to duty. His eldest son, The Hon'ble Rajkumar Giriwar Prasad Singh, aged twenty-nine, is every inch a worthy successor of his illustrious father. He is a Matriculate of the Calcutta University, and is as loyal and upright a nobleman as his esteemed father. He was also invited as one of the representatives from Bengal to the Imperial Durbar held at Delhi in 1911, and is an Honourable Member of the Provincial Legislative Council.

The Rajah's uncle, Rai Thakurai Jadunath Singh Bahadur, who is now seventy-three years old, is a very important personage in the District and was honored with the title of *Rai Bahadur* in 1908, in recognition of his public services. The Commissioner of the Division, in presenting him with the sanad and khillat, addressed him in the following words :—

It is a great pleasure to me to make this my first visit to Ranka, which is the house and birth-place of Gobind Prasad Singh, Rajah of Ranka, and of the distinguished family to which he belongs. It is only little more than a year since I was appointed to be the Commissioner of the Chotanagpore Division; and although I have paid several visits to Daltonganj, which is the headquarters of the District during that time, it is only now that I have been able to come to Ranka itself. During these visits to Daltonganj I have had the pleasure more than once of meeting Rajah Gobind Prasad Singh, Rai Jadunath Singh Bahadur, to honour whom we have come to-day and other members of the family. It is now a pleasure to me to be able during the course of my cold weather tour to fulfil the promise I made to Rajah Sahib and Rai Bahadur Sahib to come to Ranka itself. In any circumstance it would have been a great pleasure to me, but on this particular occasion it is especially so. I have come by the order of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to present to Thakurai Jadunath Singh, a distinguished member of the family, the sanad of the title of *Rai Bahadur* and the Khillat which His

Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General has been pleased to confer upon him as a personal distinction. To be the intermediary by which the Sanad and the Khillat are presented to the Rai Bahadur is a great honour to me, and it is a great pleasure to me to carry out His Excellency's directions. I consider myself to be especially fortunate in the fact that this is the second occasion on which it has been my duty to participate in the presentation of titles of distinction to members of this family. It was almost exactly at this time two years ago when I was the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, that I took part in the Durbar which His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor held at Belvedere. On that occasion the title of *Rajah* was conferred on the head of the house of Ranka. Now two years later, the title of *Rai Bahadur* is conferred on his uncle as a personal distinction. The receipt of two titles is a great honour to the family. Advancing years and an unfortunate illness prevented the Rai Bahadur from being present at the Durbar which His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor recently held at Belvedere for the purpose of presenting the honours to him and other distinguished gentlemen. But knowing the Rai Bahadur as I do, I feel sure that though he would have gladly obeyed the summons and presented himself at the Durbar at Belvedere, it must be a great pleasure to him to receive his honours in his own house and surrounded by his own kinsfolk and friends. It is for his good example in labouring during a long life-time among the people of this part of Palamau in looking after the welfare and interest of his tenantry and of Rajah Gobind Prasad Singh's tenantry, in promoting and maintaining friendly relations between the ryots and the Zamindars and a spirit of loyalty between Zamindars and ryots on the one hand and the Government and officers of Government on the other hand that this signal recognition of his service is conferred upon him. He has shown himself during a long life to be a true and kindly friend of the people and well-wisher and sagacious adviser of the local officers of the Government that being so it is befitting that he should receive here in the midst of the people among whom he has laboured the title of distinction which has now been conferred on him. I express the hope that the Rai Bahadur may be spared many years to enjoy his honours, and in doing so I feel sure that I do no more than give expression to the feeling of all who are present.

SRI SEKHARI VARMA VALIYA RAJAH OF PALGHAT

The present Sekhari Varma Valiya Rajah of Palghat is the well-known Vidwan Kombi Varma Rajah of "Kizhakke Meladom," one of the branches of the Palghat Rajah's Family.

He was born on the 3rd June 1831, so that he is now over eighty years of age. He was put to school in his third year and prosecuted his Malayalam studies till his twelfth year, when he lost his beloved father. During this early period, he began to develop a taste for histrionics, which *was looked upon as a fashionable accomplishment in those days* by the aristocracy in Malabar.

In his sixteenth year he began his study of Sanskrit under a learned Sastri from Kumbakonam and continued it till his twenty-second year. In addition to his thorough acquaintance with Sanskrit poems, dramas and alankaras, he possesses considerable knowledge in Nyaya Sastra, the Indian system of Logic. Indeed his scholarship in Sanskrit is so very eminent that he is popularly known as the Vidwan Rajah of Palghat. He has, besides, made a special study of astronomy and astrology under the Rajah of Cranganore, in which subjects he is regarded as an authority in Malabar. Even now in his ripe old age, many a student learns Sanskrit and astrology under him His merits as a Malayalam poet are of such high order that he has found a prominent place in 'Malayalam Literature,' edited by Mr. Govinda Pillai of Travancore. Among his several Malayalam works, his two dramas, viz., "Neelasura Vadham" and "Narasimha Avataram" require special mention. He has also composed several small poems in Sanskrit.

After the death of his mother in his twenty-fifth year, the management of his family devolved upon him. He continued this management until he became the fifth Rajah in his sixty-eighth year, when he handed it over to his brother, as every member of the Palghat Rajah's family ceases to manage the tarwad affairs *on attaining a Sthanam*. When the late Governor of Madras, Sir Arthur Lawley, visited Calicut in 1907, the Jenmies of Malabar presented His Excellency with an address, and he played a very prominent part in it.

He succeeded to the present Sthanam of the Valiya Rajah on the 21st February 1911, and was installed on the 8th March, when he was presented with an address by the public of Palghat.

In spite of his advanced age, the Rajah looks hale and hearty. He is very simple and unostentatious. He gets up at 5 o'clock in the morning and, after the usual ablutions, spends nearly two hours at prayers. At about 7 o'clock he gives audience to his Kariastans or agents and discusses with them affairs connected with his Sthanam. This over, he takes his bath and then performs his daily Puja, followed by the reading of Puranas till 4 p. m. The Rajah discusses with the Sastri Hindu philosophy and religion or criticisms on Sanskrit Poetry or Drama. At 4 30 p. m. he gives audience to his Kariastans or receives visitors. At 6 p. m. he is again at his prayers and spends a couple of hours in serious religious meditation.

The Rajah takes a keen interest in the management of the various Devastanams attached to the Sthanam. His loyalty to the throne is unbounded. He is an enthusiastic patron of Sanskrit and Malayalam learning and is of a very charitable disposition, and always kind and courteous in his dealings. The Palghat Rajahs are, as a rule, long-lived, and the subject of the present sketch is no exception to this rule. He draws a Malikhana of Rs. 12,000 and odd.

The Palghat Rajah Family is a prolific one, numbering as many as 900 members. They live in different Edoms or branches, each Edom owning a large tarwad property of its own.

SRI RAJAH V. VASUDEVA RAJAH VALIYA NAMBIDI OF KOLLENGODE

The subject of this memoir comes of an ancient and respected family of the chiefs of South Malabar, generally known as the Venganad Rajahs, and is a very popular and highly respected nobleman in South India. His position both in the social and in the religious world of Malabar is unique. The education and the training that he had received in his early years stood him in good stead when he had to take charge of his rich and resourceful estate early in life. The Kollengode house has always been known for its charity which has, under its present enlightened head, expanded in more useful directions, as education, medical relief, etc. Besides the many temples and charitable institutions maintained by the family for the feeding of the poor and the free boarding and accommodation of travellers and pilgrims, he has established a High School, at which many students receive their education free; and has further shown his interest in education by maintaining some primary schools as well, for the benefit of the children of his poor tenants and neighbours. He has made over as a free gift the necessary buildings for a hospital and an in-patients' ward which are maintained by the Taluk Board. The Palghat Agricultural Association and the Malabar Jenmi Sabha owe a great deal to his guidance and generosity. He was the first President of the former institution for three years, and has been the Vice-President of the latter since its inception. In the Malabar Jenmi Sabha, whose main object is to guard the interests of the landed aristocracy of Malabar, his influence and personal example have been highly beneficial in the dissemination of healthy ideas of loyalty and devotion to the British Throne. He is ever ready to encourage the arts and industries of his District, such as the weaving of fine grass-mats, carpentry, and bell-metal works; and it may be expected that with the advent of the railway to Kollengode, when the Dindigal-Palghat line comes to be opened, these industries will have a thriving future before them. It may be mentioned in passing that the influence of the Rajah with Lord Ampthill's Government was mainly responsible for the alignment of this line along Kollengode.



THE RAJAH OF KOLLENGODE

The Rajah's affability and winning manners have rendered him very popular in the Presidency town. Since the regime of Sir Arthur Havelock, he has been a personal friend of the successive Governors. He holds his own in all the private and public functions. The personal distinction of *Rajah* was conferred on him in 1901, and since then honours have been coming on him in quick succession. He was invited to the Delhi Durbar of 1903 as a State guest. When Their Imperial Majesties visited India as Prince and Princess of Wales in 1905, the Rajah joined the grand public processions and also enjoyed the privilege of a special audience with them. From 1906 to 1912 he was a member of the Legislative Council of Madras, for the first two terms as a nominated member, and then as an elected Councillor representing the landholders of the southern group, one of the largest electorates. The large majority of votes secured by him on that occasion showed beyond doubt that he enjoyed the confidence of the people as much as the esteem of the Government, or as H. E. Sir Arthur Lawley wrote congratulating him on his election, the honor came to him "as a fitting recognition of the good work which he had already done in Council." He is highly popular among the bigger Zamindars of the Presidency, and also among the rulers of the Native States in the South. As an honorary visitor to the Agricultural College at Coimbatore, a member of the Madras Students' Advisory Committee, of the Victoria Technical Institute, of the Loyal League, and of the Newington Advisory Board for the training and education of young Zamindars under the Court of Wards, the Rajah has always been ready to place his time, service, influence, and resources at the disposal of the public and the Government, which have been no less anxious to avail themselves of them. He has been consulted by Government on many public matters in recent times, as the Reform Scheme, the Decentralisation Commission, etc, and his liberal ideas and practical grasp of administrative details have always secured for his opinions a respectful consideration. It will not be out of place to state that the authorities concerned have the greatest regard for the Kollengode family for its loyalty and devotion.

No account of the Rajah will be complete without reference to his beautiful palace at Kollengode, about twelve miles from Palghat on the south-west line from Madras to Calicut and at the threshold of South Malabar, and to the charming life lived there; to the idyllic rural scenery of the country around, with its rich and extensive paddy flats delighting the eye as far as it can reach and its beautiful verdure in the monsoon months; and to the extensive forest beyond, of more than a hundred and fifty square miles, owned by the Rajah furnishing both game and scenery to the tourists and visitors that are generally attracted to the place.

The forests clothing the sides of the hills around constitute a really grand scene, and, besides furnishing costly timber such as teak, rose-wood, black-wood, etc, afford umbrage to herds of wild elephants, of which a good number are annually caught and tamed by the Rajah.

There are also many coffee plantations managed by European planters on the hills. In the forest there are two interesting places of pilgrimage, the Seethar Gundu and Govindamala, in the waterfalls of which pilgrims generally bathe on new-moon days.

The temples of Kollengode also need special notice as thay are intimately associated with the life and social position of the Rajah. The Kachan Kurichi temple dedicated to Vishnu is of special importance to the Numbudri Brahmins of Malabar and Cochin. For purposes of Yagam, a Nambudri has to take from the temple and from the hands of the senior member of the Venganad family, as representing a Gandharva, the Soma plant, the skin of a black duck, and Karungali. In virtue of this privilege, the Valiya Nambidi is enjoined always to wear a special kind of wooden sandals so that his feet might not touch the ground. There are also several other temples in Kollengode under the management of the Rajah.

This brief account will give the reader some idea of the influence and the high social position of the Venganad family and of its present head. The Rajah of Kollengode, who is still young, has many more years of active, useful, and beneficent life before him, and it was not without good reason that Lord Ampthill observed in a personal letter to the Rajah "I cannot tell you what a satisfaction it is to me to see the active and useful part you are playing in so many branches of public affairs"; and again in another letter, "Nothing could be better for India than an example of beneficence and unselfish devotion to public duty such as you are setting, and it is to be hoped that many more of the aristocratic landholders will do as you are doing."

H. E. the Governor of Madras, in the course of his autumn tour, paid a visit to Kollengode on the 17th October 1914. His Excellency and party were received by the Rajah in his palace with a large assemblage of the leading residents of the town and the members of the Kerala Brahma Samajam. His Excellency made a joint-reply to the addresses presented to him on the occasion and observed: -

As soon as it became known that I proposed to pay a visit to Palghat during this autumn, the Rajah of Kollengode, with the courtesy and hospitality characteristic of him, wrote and requested, that I should extend my tour so as to include a visit also to Kollengode. Having heard the interesting accounts of the Venganad country, I was anxious to see it, and to learn some-

thing of its people and conditions, so that I was delighted to accept the Rajah's kind invitation.

* * * * * *

I have heard with no little pleasure of the generosity of the Rajah in establishing and maintaining an efficient secondary school for the Vengnnad country and in making over rent free to the Taluk Board the local dispensary buildings with in-patients' ward and out houses, and I am glad to associate myself with the people of this place in acknowledging with gratitude the Rajah's munificence and public spirit.

After visiting the Rajah's High School and the students of the fourteen Primary Schools of Kollengode, His Excellency made the following remarks in the Visitor's Book :—

To have seen the Rajah's High School and to have been present at the gathering of the pupils, boys and girls, of all the fourteen Elementary Schools of Kollengode, have been to me among the most pleasant and interesting features of a day which has been full of interest and pleasure. I congratulate the teachers upon the results which they have achieved and wish them and their pupils all success in the future under the powerful and generous encouragement of the Rajah, whose work for the education of the people of this neighbourhood will, I am sure, be an enduring honour and satisfaction to himself and his family.

It is admitted on all hands that the past services of the Rajah of Kollengode are only an earnest of the many benefits which his loyalty, patriotism, and public spirit are likely to confer on South India.

SRI RAJAH JAGAVIRA RAMA VENKATESWARA ETTAPPA NAYAKKAR AIYAN OF ETAIYAPURAM

The ancient Zamindari of Etaiyapuram in the Tinnevelly District covers an area of 650 square miles, including the Vallanadi Sub-division of the Gantamanayakanur Zamindari in the Madura District. The general nature of the soil is black but interspersed with red loam here and there. The annual revenue is about six lakhs, and the peshkush including cesses payable to Madras Government is nearly a lakh and a half. The hill and forest tracts are fuel and fodder reserves including game preserves. The Rajah also possesses large landed property in Government villages under ryotwari tenure.

The ancestors of the Rajah of Etaiyapuram originally resided at Chandragiri in the North Arcot District, and exercised sway over the territories adjacent to it. The first who came to prominence about 856 A.D. was Periyappa Nayakkar. His successor, Nallama Nayakkar, won great renown by beheading a powerful wrestler, named Soman, the gatekeeper at the fort of Vijayanagar, who had challenged strangers wishing to pay their homage to the king of that country to wrestle with him (Soman) and overpower him, or pass underneath the gold chain that he had tied to his left leg. He fixed the head of the wrestler to a spear and his blood-stained garments to the point of a lance, and with these trophies he presented himself before the king, who awarded him a gold head to be worn as a badge on his left leg, and allowed him to use the blood-stained cloth as a banneret. As he undertook to protect the eight brothers of the gate-keeper, the King called Nallama, *Ettappan*, that is, the protector of the eight children. Since then the appellation, Ettappan, has been used by every one of his successors. The gold head and the blood-stained banneret are still used by the Samasthanam during installation ceremonies. The King of Vijayanagar granted to Nallama State fans, villages, lands, and appanages suited to the rank of a chief, and gave him leave to proceed to his country.

After four generations there came in the line Kumara Muthu Ettappa Nayakkar, who, unable to check the disturbances caused by Mahomed Alauddin, proceeded to Madura, and settled down under the protection of Adi Vira Parakrama Pandian, the king of that territory, who gave him extensive lands and villages. He thus became a chieftain and put down lawlessness in the surrounding tracts, for which the King of Madura granted him the distinction of *Sundara Pandya*. He subdued

Sattur, where he built a fort, Nallama Nayakkar Kottai, whose remains are still to be seen on the south banks of the river. One of his successors, Kumara Ettappa Nayakkar, proved very useful to Jagavirarama Pandiyan, the Viceroy of the King of Madura, in collecting the taxes that had long fallen into arrears, and received from him grants of some villages, yielding an annual income of about twenty thousand rupees. He was made the warden of Tiruchuli, with the title of *Jagavirarama*. Jagavirarama Ketchila Ettappa Nayakkar, nineteenth in the line, who was appointed guardian of one of the seventy-two bastions of Madura, made large additions to the estate. His successor, Kumara Ettappa Nayakkar, founded the town of Etaiyapuram in January 1567, and built the Siva temple there. He helped the King of Madura in his attack against the fort of Eraneel belonging to the Maharajah of Travancore, when he was treacherously killed. The king, out of regard for the deceased chief, conferred on his family Kalugumalai, and granted the title of *Aiyan* to his successor.

Ketchila Ettappa Nayakkar Aiyan, the next in succession, was a great swordsman and an intrepid rider. He overcame the Chief of Ramnad and wrested from him some insignia of royalty and two State horses. During his time the Catholic Christians residing there received his protection which is mentioned on a stone inscription.

It was Muthu Jagavirarama Ettappa Nayakkar Aiyan, the thirty-first Chief, that came under British influence; and he rendered substantial aid to them in capturing the rebellious Palayagar, Kataboma Nayakkar, of Panchalankurichi, who had defied their authority, and won for his services the village of Sivagnanapuram. In 1827 the Right Honourable S. Lushington, Governor of Madras, paid a visit to Etaiyapuram, and complimented the chief in high terms for all that he had done in the interests of the British. He established a choultry, at which Brahmins and other mendicants are fed daily; and the excellent buildings, known as Sundaravilásam, Kaliana Mahal, Subrahmania Vilasam, and others that grace the town of Etaiyapuram were brought into existence in his time. The two flags of honour promised by the British Government to the former Zamindar were received by him. His eldest son, Kumara Ettappa Nayakkar Aiyan, was a good Tamil scholar. When he succeeded to the estate, he built a new palace, erected a substantial brick fortress, and an edifice with a gold cupola, and laid out some fine roads. He presented costly jewels to several temples, and built two bridges at a cost of about twenty thousand rupees.

After a few generations, Jagavirarama Kumara Ettappa Nayakkar Aiyan became the Zamindar of Etaiyapuram. He had the honour of welcoming

H. R. H. the Prince of Wales (King Edward VII), when he landed at Tuticorin in December 1875. The Zamindar was accorded the privilege of travelling with His Royal Highness as far as Koilpati, where he presented the Prince with some articles as mementos of his visit to this country. Ettappa Nayakkar Aiyan was present at the Delhi Assemblage of 1876, when he was the recipient of a gold medal and a certificate of honour in recognition of his loyalty and fidelity to the British Government and charity to the poor.

During his travels to and from Delhi, he was escorted by a public officer of rank under the orders of the Madras Government. In the great famine of 1877-8, he fed thousands of poor people. The following complimentary remarks regarding him appeared then in the proceedings of the Court of Wards:—

The interest displayed by the minor Zamindar in the management of the charities is highly creditable to him.

The Collector will intimate to the minor Zamindar their high appreciation of his conduct on this occasion.

He gave away to the Local Board as a gift the road leading to Kalugumalai, eight miles long, laid out and maintained at his own cost. He established a few elementary schools in his estate. After a brief illness he passed away in 1890.

He was succeeded by his son, the present Rajah, Sri Rajah Jagavira Rama Venkateswara Ettappa Nayakkar Aiyan, born in 1878. The estate was taken under the management of the Court of Wards, and, before the young Rajah was sent to the Newington School at Madras for his education, he had an excellent tutor in Mr. M. S. Purnalingam Pillai, B. A., for over a year, appointed by the Court of Wards. Among his tutors in Madras were Messrs. Potts, Ellison, Morrison, Payne and Rao Bahadur (afterwards Dewan Bahadur) K. Jagannatha Chettiyar. During his stay at Madras he travelled all over India under proper guides. The management of the estate was entrusted to him in 1899, when Dewan Bahadur K. Jagannatha Chettiyar was appointed his Dewan. The latter held the office twice with marked success and then retired. He was succeeded by Mr. S. T. Shanmugam Pillai, a retired Deputy Collector of "well-known Revenue abilities and unblemished reputation," who sat for a term at the Legislative Council, Madras. His administration of the estate has all along been sound and efficient.

Soon after his assumption of the estate, the Rajah established a Girls' School and raised the estate Lower Secondary School to the standard of a High School where free education, under the modern curriculum, is imparted to all students from all parts of Tinnevelly and

of the neighbouring Districts of Madura and Ramnad. He maintains also a Model Agricultural Farm at Etaiyapuram. He keeps up a good stud and takes delight in shooting. Kurumalai is the favourite haunt of tourists and of Europeans in the District who take to the pleasures of hunting. The Rajah is ever ready to welcome them and to accommodate all lovers of pastimes during their sojourn within the limits of his estate. In 1909, a Cattle Show and an Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition were held at Koilpatti at immense expense to the estate, and Mr. A. E. Castlestuart Stuart opened them with a graceful speech. The Rajah is an honorary visitor to the College of Agriculture at Coimbatore and to the Newington School at Madras. At the invitation of the Madras Government, the Rajah attended the two Imperial Durbars held at Delhi, one in 1902, and another in 1911, and earned medals on both occasions. The Rajah has made a generous gift of a pucka-built Septic Ward of the value of Rs. 7,000 to the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital at Madras and a liberal donation of Rs. 20,000 to two American Mission hospitals at Madura, and he pays annually a contribution of Rs. 1,000 towards the up-keep of the Local Fund Dispensary at Etaiyapuram and a Mission Hospital at Nagalapuram within the limits of his estate. The building itself wherein the Local-Fund Dispensary at Etaiyapuram is located was a free gift made by the Rajah to the Local Fund Department. He also contributed liberally towards the cost of a metalled road twelve miles distant between Etaiyapuram and Vilatikulam, the headquarters of a Deputy Tahsildar. In appreciation of his liberality and beneficent work, the Government was pleased to confer on him the title of *Rajah* in 1911. Since then the Rajah has purchased and improved two bungalows in Madras at a cost of about a lakh of rupees and has reconstructed, on a much improved style of architecture, the major portion of his Palace buildings at Etaiyapuram, and fitted them up with electric lights and fans, by means of an electric installation, at a total cost of about a lakh and a half. The Rajah is an early riser and of regular good habits and high moral rectitude. He is truly religious and strictly orthodox in principles, and he performed, a few years ago, a Soma Yagam, which is a religious ceremony of great importance at a cost of about Rs. 50,000, and the Rajah very recently distinguished himself by making a very generous contribution of Rs. 50,000 to the War Fund, besides contributing a thousand rupees separately to the Imperial Relief Fund, a gift, indeed more generous than any that has hitherto been made on that account by any of the Zamindars or landlords south of Madras, which was quite in keeping with his own generous impulse and with the noble traditions of his ancient, historic and loyal house of Etaiyapuram. May the Rajah be spared for many years to continue his beneficent work of public charity and earn and enjoy higher honours and distinctions at the hands of Government and may he be soon blessed with progeny for the prosperity and permanence of the estate!

THE MAHARAJ KUMARS OF PATNA

The late Maharajah Dalaganjan Singh Deo, the Feudatory Chief of Patna, who was highly reputed for his bravery and intelligence, had six sons. Of them the most prominent are Prithviraj Singh Deo, the present Maharajah, Pattayat Batsraj Singh Deo, Lal Raghuraj Singh Deo, and Lal Kalindra Sin.h Deo. Under the careful supervision of their father, they received sound education. Maharajah Prithviraj Singh Deo treats his brothers with great affection and regard. Pattayat Batsraj Singh Deo and Lal Raghuraj Singh Deo, who are very fond of shooting and hunting, are known to be good marks-men. The former is mild, sober, generous, and fair-spoken, while the latter is spirited, popular, magnanimous, promising, and patriotic. Lal Kalindra Singh Deo, the fourth son of the late Maharajah Dalaganjan Singh Deo, is a nice gentleman and very popular. Lal Mahendra Singh Deo and Lal Birendra Singh Deo, the last two sons of the late Maharajah, are continuing their studies.

MAHARAJ KUMAR SRIJUT LAL RANABEER SINGH DEO
H. M. AND JUDGE, SONEPUR FEUDATORY STATE

Maharaj Kumar Lal Ranabeer Singh Deo, the second brother of Maharajah Sri Birmitrodaya Singh Deo Bahadur, Feudatory Chief of the Sonepur State, Orissa, Bengal, was born on the 30th December 1880. As a Chowhan Khattri he was well trained in riding, shooting, etc., and in his younger days he excelled in all athletic sports. With a fair knowledge of English, Uriya, Bengali, and Hindi, he commenced his career as an Honorary Magistrate and Judge in 1902. His faithful discharge of duty and his impartial justice earned for him the good-will of both the rulers and the ruled. The Maharajah has on several occasions brought to the notice of the Political Agent, the Commissioner of the Division, and the Lieutenant-Governor, that he receives valuable help from the Maharaj Kumar Lal Ranabeer Singh Deo in the administration of the State. The Political Agent remarked in the visitors' book on the 29th February 1904 that the services of the Maharaj Kumar were highly satisfactory. Maharaj Kumar Lal Ranabeer Singh Deo has travelled widely in the North-Western Provinces, Bengal, Ganjam, and Orissa. He is a popular nobleman.

BARAKUMAR BALABHADRA DEB
MEMBER, BAMRA STATE COUNCIL

Barakumar Balabhadra Deb, the second son of the late Rajah Sir Basudeb Sudhal Deb, K. C. I. E., is a thoroughly accomplished gentleman and takes a keen interest in all matters of public utility. He is a Member of the Bamra State Council, Chairman of the local Municipality and of the Managing Committee of the High School. He is well educated in English, Sanskrit, Hindi, Bengali, and Uriya; and in the last of which he has translated Kalidas' Raghu Vamsam and Ritu Sanhar and several plays of Shakespeare, besides being the author of many original poems which are compared to "pieces of diamond of the first water" by the illustrious and much lamented poet of Orissa, Rai Radha Nath Rai Bahadur, He takes a keen interest in the development of commerce and agriculture and has introduced scientific and up-to-date system of the latter in his village, Sona Munda, where he has excavated a big tank and built a palatial building. As a social reformer he is trying to root out several evil practices and his efforts have been greatly successful. He is a keen and enthusiastic sportsman, and his aim in shooting seldom fails. He has bagged sixty tigers and thirty bisons. He is imparting liberal education to his children, two sons and four daughters.

LAL SHIVARAJ BAHADUR SINGH
RAO SAHIB OF CHORAHAT

Lal Shivaraj Bahadur Singh, Rao Sahib of Chorahat, was born in 1894 at Chandania, the seat of a younger branch of the Chorahat Rao family. He was adopted by the late Rao Fateh Bahadur Singh, one of the leading and trusted Sardars of the Rewah State. Besides being an Honorary Magistrate and Member of the State Council, he was in constant attendance on His Highness the present Maharajah and was one of the Sardars who helped the tutor in the general bringing-up of the young Maharajah.

Lal Shivaraj Bahadur Singh succeeded to the *gadi* in 1907 immediately after his adoption at the age of thirteen. After spending nearly two years and a half in the study of Sanskrit at home, he entered in 1909 the Durbar High School, Rewah, and began his English education. He is now in the final Matric class. His rapid progress in the school bears testimony to his intellectual capacity and love of knowledge.

It was very late in his boyhood that he was brought under enlightened influence, but even in so short a time he has given practical proofs of his earnestness in spreading knowledge and doing good to his own people and the public at large. He finds special pleasure in helping poor students.

He established the "Venkat Pathasala" (a vernacular school) at Semaria, an important village in his Thakurate, in honour of H.E. Lord Hardinge's birthday celebration after his recovery from the effects of the infernal bomb-throw at Delhi. He has materially helped in the reorganization of the Sarvajanik Pustakalaya (a public library) at Rewa town.

In virtue of the family prestige and personal attraction, of refinement and culture, His Highness was pleased to choose him as one of the respectable Sardars attending on him at the recent Delhi Durbar. He accompanied the Maharajah during his visit to the Viceroy at Simla in 1913.

Rao Shivaraj Bahadur Singh has married the granddaughter of the Thakur of Bal, sprung from the Gaharwar family of Manda, an important Raj in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh. His father-in-law, Captain Gopal Singh, is one of the most favourite Sardars of His Highness.

The Rao family of Chorahat is a branch of the Kasauta family, now represented by the Maha-Rao-Rajah of Bara, U. P. It was founded by Rao Vikramajit Singh. This family has been enjoying from its very foundation all the privileges of the first class nobility in Rewah, including full *tazim* and the emblems of *chhari*, *chaur*, *nishan*, etc. The annual revenue of the estate is about Rs. 50,000.

SREEMANTHA ABHINAVA POORNA PRIYA VEDAJI BHASCAR THIRUMALA RAO SAHIB AVERGAL JAGHIRDAR OF ARNI

The Jaghire of Arni in the North Arcot District of the Madras Presidency covers an area of 211 square miles, and has a population of about 125,000 giving an average of 592 persons to a square mile. Its annual revenue is Rs. 2,25,000, the peishcush and other Government dues being nearly Rs. 30,000.

In the early part of the seventeenth century, this jaghire belonged to Vedaji Bhascar Pant, a Madhwa Brahmin, as a reward for his long and faithful service. He had accompanied Shaji, the father of the great Shivaji, and a protege of Bahadur Shah of Bijapur, after his three years' unsuccessful warfare with the General of the Emperor Aurangzeb, in his expedition to the Carnatic at the instance of his protector.

When Shaji took Arni, he placed Vedaji Bhascar Pant in charge of it as Killadar, and, subsequently between 1658 and 1664, granted him the jaghire, which was confirmed by the Sultan of Bijapur. When Shivaji invaded the Carnatic and seized all the Bijapur possessions there, Vedaji Bhascar Pant was confirmed in the command, and his two sons were also employed. In appreciation of the bravery shown by the Killadar and of the signal services rendered by him, Shivaji recognised him as the Jaghirdar of Arni. This, together with the fact that both were of the Mahratta race, was apparently why the Rajahs of Tanjore regarded the Jaghire of Arni as their dependency. The descendants of Vedaji Bhascar Pant, who were of peaceful habits, allied themselves with the Rajahs of Tanjore when pressed by the Nawab of Arcot for tribute. They remained neutral in all the Carnatic wars of the eighteenth century, lest they should incur the displeasure of any of the powers. As they were very hospitable, they won the goodwill and friendship of all. From the beginning they had been on friendly terms with the East India Company. It is with reference to this attitude that the historian Orme says "The Killadar of the Fort (Arnee), which is considerable and a fief belonging to the king of Tanjore,



THE JAGHIRDAR OF ARNI

has conducted himself with so much hospitality to both sides that neither the French nor the Nawab considered him as an enemy."

Vedaji Bhascar Pant was in charge of the jaghire for forty-three years. He was succeeded by his son, Koneri; and, after him, came his second son, Sreenivasa Rao, whose rule lasted twenty-four years and who died leaving the jaghire to Vankat Rao, his eldest son. After forty years, he was followed by his son, Sreenivasa Rao. He passed away in four years without issue, and his younger brother, Thirumala Row, became the Jaghirdar. It was during his time that disputes arose between him and the Nawab of Arcot. The latter, after the wars with the French, demanded a contribution from the Jaghirdar for his estate. Thirumala Rao contended that he held a free jaghire, and that, further, he was subject to the Rajah of Tanjore. The Nawab, aided by the East India Company's troops, took his fort, sequestered the jaghire and put him and his family in prison. The Rajah of Tanjore interfered in his behalf, and, by the treaty of 11th October 1761, entered into between the Rajah of Tanjore and the Nawab of Arcot and guaranteed by the East India Company, the Jaghire of Arni was restored to Thirumala Rao and his descendants on certain conditions, one of which was that a sum of Rs. 10,000 was to be paid annually as peishcush. In pursuance of this treaty, the Nawab released Thirumala Rao and his family from prison, and put him in charge of the jaghire; but he did not survive the elevation long, as he died in January 1763. His son having predeceased him, his grandson, Sreenivasa Rao, succeeded with the consent and approbation of the Company, the Nawab of Arcot, and the Rajah of Tanjore. Owing to his minority, however, his grandmother, the widow of Thirumala Rao, was in possession of the estate till her death in 1771, when, owing to the alleged refractory conduct of certain Brahmins, the Nawab took posession of the jaghire. The same year, the Rajah of Tanjore, by a treaty, formally relinquished to the Nawab his suzerainty over Arni. Nevertheless, he asserted his claim to it and assigned as his reason for not carrying out his engagement, that the Nawab had failed to restore Arni and Hanumanthagudi to him. Sreenivasa Rao appealed to the Madras Government and the Court of Directors as the country was in the possession of the East India Company and the Court of Directors, on account of certain payments due by the Nawab. The Court of Directors, in their despatch of the 9th December 1784, went fully into the claims of the Rajah, the Nawab, and the descendants of Thirumala Rao, and affirmed that, under the treaty of 1762, Thirumala Rao had hereditary right to the jaghire, and that, the Company's faith having been pledged in the treaty, the Nawab was not justified in withholding the jaghire from the descendants of Thirumala Rao. They, therefore, directed that it should be immediately restored to Sreenivasa Rao

who had no concern with, nor was privy to, the disturbance of the Brahmins complained of by the Nawab, unless, in the interest of peace and tranquillity, it was expedient not to do so, in which case the local Government was directed to submit the full facts to them. In the meantime, there were other relations of Sreenivasa Rao, who put forward their claims as superior to his; and, after an investigation, Sreenivasa Rao was restored to the jaghire at the time of the governorship of John Holland. A *cowle* was taken from him by which he agreed to act according to the stipulations of the treaty of 1762, and certain other stipulations, and a corresponding sanad was granted to him by Governor Holland. Sreenivasa Rao died without issue, but had given instructions to his wife to adopt an heir. On his death several claimants appeared, and after an exhaustive enquiry by the Board and the local Government, a sanad was granted in 1796 to Thirumala Rao, the person adopted by Sreenivasa Rao's widow. The action of the Madras Government was upheld by the Court of Directors.

The permanent and hereditary character of the jaghire was thus recognised successively by the treaty of 1762, by the Court of Directors, and by the various proceedings of the local Government, the Board, and the Collector, and thus the jaghire continued to be enjoyed uninterruptedly by the descendants of Thirumala Rao, until the death of Srinivasa Rao, the present Jaghirdar's father, in 1902.

All the Jaghirdar of Arni were very able and great men; for they preserved their position at the time when the country was in confusion owing to constant wars and invasions. Their chief characteristic was loyalty to the ruling power; nor did they fail in any respect to gain the esteem and affection of their subjects. They were all very charitable. Some Brahmin families were granted villages on a favourable fixed rent; several people were given inam villages; while many obtained minor inams, which still continue. The total beriz of these lands comes to nearly half a lakh. All the Jaghirdar Sahibs have been the most favoured among the disciples of the Uttaradi Mutt. His Holiness the Swami has conferred on them the title of *Abhinava Poorna Priya*, and has placed them in absolute control over the Nagaram Mutt.

In 1902, when the Jaghirdar Sreenivasa Rao Sahib died, the present Jaghirdar was a minor, and the estate was taken under the management of the Court of Wards. Then, for the last time, the Government questioned the permanent proprietary and hereditary character of the jaghire, and granted a sanad, adding certain new clauses and conditions considered to be inconsistent with the Jaghirdars' rights to it. Soon after the Jaghirdar attained his majority and assumed charge of the estate on the 14th July 1906, he had to resort to a court of justice for the rectification of the sanad by the omission of the objectionable clauses. The suit was pending

in the court till 1909, when the Government recognised the justice of his claims, and, as a result, a compromise was arrived at, by which the objectionable clauses were rescinded, and the hereditary and permanent proprietary right of the Jaghirdar was recognised in express terms, and the suit was withdrawn. The revised sanad was granted to him in August 1909. If Vedaji Bhascar Pant was the founder of the jaghire, to Vedaji Bhascar Thirumala Rao Sahib, the present Jaghirdar, is due the credit of getting the permanent proprietary right of the Jaghirdars unmistakably established and confirmed by the British Government.

Sreemantha Abhinava Poorna Priya Vedaji Bhascar Thirumala Rao Sahib was born on the 14th July 1885, and is now twenty-nine years of age. He is the eleventh in succession, and the estate, during his minority, was under the control of the Court of Wards. The late Jaghirdar, Sreenivasa Rao Sahib, was reputed to be a model proprietor and a far-seeing administrator, and the present Jaghirdar, his son, already bids fair to equal, if not excel, his father.

The young Jaghirdar came in possession of an improved and prosperous estate thanks to the reforming zeal of the late Jaghirdar and its efficient management by the Court of Wards. With a keenness of insight truly remarkable in one of his class and in one so young, the Jaghirdar has made the best use of his opportunities. On every side are to be seen signs of rapid improvement. Irrigation works are conducted with a vigour and promptness deserving the highest praise. The improved system of village accounts now in vogue, and the measures adopted in the proper management, maintenance, and preservation of the estate records, which were in utter confusion, testify to his care for details and to his love of order and method. He is easily accessible to them and redresses their grievances promptly. On the occasion of his son's *Namakaranam*, he granted liberal remissions of land revenue. He has also shown large concessions to poor ryots to enable them to bring new lands under cultivation.

An Agri-Horticultural Exhibition was held in April 1909 under the presidency of the Honourable Sir Murray Hammick. It was a grand success and had the appreciation of all who visited it. It elicited the praise of the Madras press, and the following extract from the *Indian Patriot* will be read with interest :—

* * * It is certainly promising that Mr. Thirumala Rao is inclined in the right direction, and his tenants and dependents would, we hope, be proud of a master so solicitous for their progress and so liberal with his purse. The cost of an ordinary exhibition is immense ; more than the cost the management is always a serious difficulty ; and it was the lack of efficient management that made the Koilpatti Exhibition and Cattle Show the disappointing feature it was. Most of the exhibits were purchased by the Jaghirdar, and that is probably,

one of the reasons why the exhibition was so extensively represented. As was his intention from the very beginning, Mr. Thirumala Rao has established a museum in his jaghire, for the profit and pleasure of his ryots and tenants. It has served to bring the proprietor and his people into closer touch, and Mr. Thirumala Rao may be said to be personally acquainted with many of his tenants and has left an impression on their minds of his generosity and regard for them all.

In October 1909, the museum exhibits were displayed at the Mysore Dussara Exhibition and won for the Jaghirdar many prizes, certificates of merit, and a gold medal.

The opening of a Survey School and the introduction of survey operations in the jaghire, and the steps taken for the establishment of a model home farm are further evidences of the Jaghirdar's due sense of his responsibilities as a proprietor. The arrangements made by him for the sanitation and lighting of the town of Sathyavizianagram have evoked the admiration of every visitor to it. He is keenly interested in education, and his substantial help saved the Board's Secondary School at Arni from bieng closed for want of funds. No needy student ever applied to him for help in vain.

The Jaghirdar is quite modern in his tastes and is well educated. His habits are simple, and he dislikes display of all kinds. He attends to every detail of his work as landlord, and his leisure hours are well spent. He has made a special study of electricity and can fit up electric installations and engines unaided by the professionals. He is a student of the physical and chemical sciences.

He owns fine mansions—one at Nagram, known as *Sree Vilas*, another at Poosi, called Brooklands, and Arni House, Arni Hall, and Woodlands in Madras, Bangalore, and Ooty, respectively, and anybody who visits them will be struck with the artistic taste which the owner has displayed in them.

The Jaghirdars of Arni have always been noted for their loyalty to the Paramount Power, and the present representative of the family is no less so. This was how he expressed himself with regard to the recent unrest when he presided over the mass meeting held at Arni for the purpose of concerting measures to commemorate the life of His late Majesty King Edward VII:—" It is very unfortunate that sedition and disloyalty are talked of in many places, but such a thing has been unknown here. The people of these parts have been law-abiding and have implicit confidence in British justice and fair play".

Though young, the Jaghirdar has been able to achieve so much in a lustrum, and we may, therefore, look for still greater progress in the years to come.

BEOHAR RAGHUBEER SINHA
JAGHIRDAR, JUBBALPORE (CENTRAL PROVINCES)

The subject of this sketch belongs to the oldest and one of the most highly respected families of Jubbalpore. The family has friendly relations with many a Maharajah and Rajah and is occasionally honoured by their visit to the family residence at Jubbalpore, an honour enjoyed by no other family in that city. Among the visitors may be mentioned H. H. the Maharajahs of Rewa, H. H. the Maharajah of Unchahra, the Rajah Bahadur of Nagpur, and the Rajahs of Maihar, Saugor, Khairagarh, Pitahra, Salaiya, Imlai, Bhandra, and other Zamindars, Thakurs, and Raises. For nine long generations, the heads and other members of this family had held important state appointments of great trust and responsibility under the Gond and Mahratta rulers in this District, and their vast experience and the important records on state matters in the possession of the family were freely and loyally placed at the disposal of the British Government during its early establishment in this part of the country.

It has been the proud privilege of one or two leading members of this old family to hold very high positions as Durbaries and Khas Mulaquaties of the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, from generation to generation, and the Government have always graciously acknowledged their high respectability and their undisputed loyalty by exempting them from the operations of the Arms Act.

Beohar Raghubeer Sinha's father, Beohar Nirpat Sinha, was for several years President of the District Council, and his uncle, Beohar Thakur Prasad, was an Honorary Magistrate of the second class. They also worked in several other public capacities, and thus tried to render themselves useful to their sovereign and their country.

The title of *Beohar* was granted to Kaihari Sinha, great-grandfather's grandfather of Beohar Raghubeer Sinha, in recognition of his bravery and good service as an hereditary distinction by the Maharajah Nizam Shaha of Mandla in 1774 A.D. (Sambat 1831) and has since been recognised by the Rajahs of Saugor and Nagpur and the British Government.

The literal meaning of the word *Beohar* is custom, which shows that Beohar Kaihari Sinha, recipient of the title, was familiar with the manners and customs of the country and the affairs of the kingdom. The Kings utilised his services as Private Secretary on account of his wide experience in matters of state. The later generations of this distinguished family were held in great esteem by the high officers of the British Government and were always consulted with confidence on matters political and touching Muafies and Jaghirs held by the Zamindars of the District. Later on several generations held the office of Honorary Sadar Kanungos entrusted with the custody of the old and new records of the district, to which great importance was attached under the British Government. The family possesses some very old rare and important records bearing on matters relating to the territorial disputes and zamindari affairs under the Gond and Mahratta dynasties.

The members of the family have always been promoting works of public utility and charity, and have shown public spirit in many ways. The *Bawali* and *Dharmashala*, built at a cost of about 25,000 rupees in Mauza Jujhari on the Mirzapore road, still slake the thirst of thousands of travellers and wayfarers and affords them shelter from the rigours of extreme weather.

The temple and ghat built at a cost of about 15,000 rupees on the river Narbada, at the Lamahta Ghat, still stand as monuments of the greatness of the family. The temple of Radha Krishan, built near the family residence at Jubbalpore at a cost of about 40,000 rupees, attracts pious worshippers, and is a remembrancer of the piety of this memorable family.

The extensive plot of land, on a part of which the Tahsil Court and its offices are now built, once belonged to this family and was handed over to the Government without any compensation when they wanted to lay out a garden for public use. There are many mango-groves originally planted by the members of this family which are entrusted to Government as *Rafahe Am* or for public use.

It is difficult to single out a member of this public-spirited family who has not made a free gift of a plot of land, planted a mango grove, or given a jaghir to some learned or public-spirited persons. A large strip of land for the road leading to the Water Works Reservoir, was given as a free gift to the Jubbalpore Municipality. A Hindi poet has praised the family in these words:—"Wherever there is wealth in the District, Daryao (Beohar Daryao Singh, an ancestor) has a claim over it." The word *Daryao* means the ocean. The pun is, therefore, easy to understand.

The head of the family was invited to the Governor-General's Durbar held in Jubbalpore after the Mutiny, along with all the Indian Chiefs and Nobles, and the claim of the Beohar family to a seat among the noblest of the land was thus graciously recognised by the British Government. Beohar Raghubeer Sinha's grandfather, Beohar Aman Sinha, had the signal honour of being invited to the Durbar held in Jubbalpore on the auspicious occasion of the visit of H. M. the late King-Emperor as Prince of Wales in 1877.

Beohar Raghubeer Sinha, the present representative of this distinguished family, enjoys the privilege of being a Darbari of a high order. He is a Khas Mulaquati of the Honourable the Chief Commissioner. He holds a good many villages in the Jubbalpore and Mandla Districts, including some jaghir villages on which a certain *obary* has been fixed. He is now free, by his own efforts, from the heavy burden of liabilities which had encumbered his estate when the Court of Wards handed it over to him some eleven years ago. His ryots are not unfairly taxed or rack-rented in any way, and so they are satisfied with him, as he looks to their well-being as his own. He stands third in the District among those who pay a large amount of revenue to Government. He is very regular and punctual in his payments and holds certificates from Government officers testifying to this fact. He was selected as a delegate by the land-holders of the Jubbalpore District to vote at the election of an additional member of the Legislative Council held in December 1909. He has been the Honorary Secretary of the Local Board, Jubbalpore, since 1903. He discharges his duties with zeal and ability and to the satisfaction of his superiors. Since 1906 he has been working as an Honorary Magistrate. He worked as Honorary Secretary to the Indian Famine Relief Fund Committee, Jubbalpore branch, in 1907-8. His efficient work is evident from the last famine report and the printed certificate he has received. He succeeded his father as President of the Kayasth Sabhas, provincial and local, in order to improve the education of and effect desirable reforms in that community, which looks upon him as its representative. He made over a valuable piece of land in the heart to the city to the Jubbalpore Municipality for a public recreation ground free of any compensation which bears the name of 'George Park'. He has contributed Rs. 1,200 towards the funds for the King Edward Memorial Hospital at Narayanganj, District Mandla, where the want of such an institution was keenly felt; and his contribution towards the Jubbalpore Memorial Fund was Rs. 105. His interest in the cause of education and his minor contributions towards its support are well known. He subscribes monthly for the District Library, the K. Hitkarni High School, and other institu-

tions, and contributes occasionally to girl's schools. He got a building constructed for the District Council Village School, Burhagarh. He gave Rs. 125 for furniture to the K. Hitkarni High School, and Rs. 500 towards its endowment fund, and as President of the deputation committee for the raising of an endowment, he is doing what he can to place this popular institution on a sound financial basis. The committee have already collected Rs. 20,000, and the money promised also amounts to about Rs. 20,000. At the annual tournament of 1910 held by the Field Games' Association he provided for the presentation of a Silver Challenge Cup to be competed for every year by the students of the local Middle and High Schools. He has also provided for a valuable Silver Challenge Shield to be given at the Divisional Agricultural Exhibition to the person who produces the best *dhan* (paddy).

He is an under Graduate of the Allahabad University and has a great taste for Sanskrit. He is the Honorary Secretary of the Sanskrit School, and is the author of the following books:—"Shastra-Siddanta-Sar" (prose) the "Bhagwata Gita," in easy verse; "Bikram-Bilaswati", a novel; and "Kadambary" (prose).

He had the honour of being invited to all the functions during the epoch-making Delhi Durbar of 1911, and was as one of the few select Maharajahs, Rajahs, and other Government guests received by His Ma-y at the Imperial Camp. In commemoration of this great Assemblage, ade remissions to his tenants and debtors, which amounted to about thousand rupees in the Jubbalpore District and nearly two thousand s in the Mandla District. The Honourable the Chief Commission-esented the Durbar certificate of honour to him when he laid the ndation stone of the King Edward Memorial Dispensary at his illage, Naraingan, in the Mandla District, to the funds of which he had contributed more liberally than the rest. The Delhi Durbar Medal was presented to him in a public durbar.

SUBEDAR PURUSHOTTAM RAO TATYA SAHIB OF BITHUR

The family of the Subedars of Bithur in the Cawnpore District, United Provinces, is distinguished for its military service during the troublous times of the eighteenth century. The founder of the family was Ramchander Pant who was born on the 11th November 1777 in the village of Havnur on the banks of the Tungabhadra in the District of Dharwar. He exhibited his warlike qualities even in his youth, and his cleverness and intelligence made the people about him predict a great future for him. As a lad of fifteen, he took service under Tippu Sultan in Mysore, but the bigotry and religious fanaticism of that ruler disgusted him so much that he gave up his service under him and joined Bapu Gokhle, Commander-in-Chief of the Peshwa's Army, who was just then fighting on the Mysore frontier. He soon won his confidence and good opinion as a capable officer and obtained a very high rank in the army under the Peshwas. Later on he was appointed a Subedar in the Carnatic by the Peshwas, and since that time the family has been known as the Subedar family.

In 1818 when Baji Rao was defeated by the English at Khirki, his Commander-in-Chief, Bapu Gokhle, passed away, and his next in rank Ramchander Pant succeeded him. It is said that prosperity brings friends, and adversity tries them. In those days of trouble for Baji Rao, many of his numerous adherents deserted him to save their lives and jaghirs, but Ramchander Pant followed him to the last and stood by him loyally. His army of 5,000 horse was ever ready to fight for the Peshwa against the English. He never wavered in his allegiance to his sovereign. At last when all hopes of success were at an end, he, as became a true and chivalrous warrior, was the first to advise the Peshwa to sue for peace and seek the protection of the English. It was at his instance that in 1818 Baji Rao made overtures for peace to Sir John Malcolm. Ramchander Pant was equally loyal and honest in his dealings with the English. In the winter of 1818 the army of Baji Rao was in a bad way. Rains set in;

sickness broke out in the army; the Rajah of Nagpur opened up hostilities; and there were troubles all around. The supplies ran short, and as the lands were uncultivated, they were not procurable. In this state, Baji Rao returned to Bithur near Cawnpore. At this time Ramchander Pant was his Chief Minister, and it was mainly through his efforts that peace was secured and affairs were placed on a satisfactory basis. In recognition of his services, the Subedar was given the jaghir of Jaoor and Shanwar near Dharwar with independent powers, and received a monthly allowance of Rs. 1,000. After peace was concluded, the Subedar was most friendly to the English and loyally helped them on several occasions. At one time when the British army marched against Bharatpur and Alwar, it was at the instance of Ramchander Pant that Baji Rao helped the East India Company with sixteen lakhs of rupees for carrying on the operations. Mr. John Low, the Commissioner with Baji Rao, recorded his appreciation of Ramchander Pant's services, in a minute, dated the 3rd November 1825, and concluded it in the following terms :--

Under all these circumstances I do not hesitate to recommend the Subedar Ram Chunder Pant strongly to the attention of all British Public Functionaries and to all other Gentlemen with whom he may wish to communicate either in person or by letter.

Ramchander Pant remained a loyal and true friend of the Company until his death in 1852. He left behind him three sons, Narayan Rao, Shreepat Rao, and Shrinivas Rao; of these, the second alone had issue. Narayan Rao rendered valuable service during the days of the great Mutiny, and this has been testified to by Lieutenant Thomson, the officer commanding the Cawnpore Police, in the following words :—

I have known Narain Rao Nana, son of Ramchander Pant, Subedar of the late Bajee Rao Mahratta, since August 1857, and have always believed him to be a sincere well-wisher of the Government throughout the Mutiny and indeed his actions have proved him to be so, for at the time when General Havelock first advanced and took Cawnpore he came forward and, when asked, supplied Captain Bruce, Superintendent of Police, as many horsemen as his reduced means enabled him to do.

Successive officers of Government have borne testimony to the loyalty of the house. Narayan Rao was the first to give information to the Lieutenant-Governor of the outbreak of the Mutiny. He helped General Havelock with as many horsemen as he could when he attacked and took possession of Cawnpore. Colonel Barrow was helped with nineteen guns when he came to Bithur with his party. In his anxiety to help the British Government against the rebels, his life was often exposed to danger. Many of his relations were with the rebels, and they made overtures to him to join them. But he stood above all those tempta-

tions and remained true and loyal to the last. In return for his services he was liberally rewarded by the Government of Her Majesty the Queen Victoria by a grant of many jaghirs. Narayan Rao died leaving three sons, Vasudev Rao, Purushottam Rao, and Ramchander Rao or Anna Sahib, Tatya Sahib, and Baba Sahib as they were respectively known.

Purushottam Rao Tatya Sahib, the present head of the family, inherits the virtues of his great-grandfather. Mr. J. H. Princep, Judge, Cawnpore, wrote as follows on the 1st April 1882, regarding Vasudev Rao Anna Sahib and Purushottam Rao Tatya Sahib :—

I have known Vasudev Rao Anna Sahib, and his younger brother, Purushottam Rao Tatya Sahib, during the eleven years of my residence at Cawnpore, and have ever found them willing and ready to please and aid in any enquiry found necessary. Their father, Narain Rao, who deceased last year, was the son of the Peshwa's Subedar, and through him they inherit the title of Subedar ; remaining staunch to the British Government in the troublous times of 1857, the confiscated lands at Bithur of the rebel Nana Dhondoo Pant Rao, known as the *Lashkar* lands, were conferred in grant on their family, and they now continue to hold them at favourable rates.

They hold a seat at the Government Durbars as well as the right of admission to private audience and all that remains to complete their position as native gentlemen of the first rank is exemption from personal attendance from the Courts of Law.

I hope that they may ultimately succeed in their efforts to secure this. Being about to leave the country for good, I have no hesitation in certifying to their respectability and hope to hear of their welfare and continuance in the good esteem of Government.

On the 13th November 1906, the then Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces bore the following testimony of Subedar Purushottam Rao Tatya Sahib :—

I have known the Subedar of Bithur, Purushottam Rao Tatya Sahib, for many years. It has always been a pleasure to me to meet him, and he has earned the respect of all who know him.

His main ambition is to be exempted from attendance at Civil Courts, and I consider him worthy of this personal distinction, if it has been the custom in this Province to grant it except in the rarest instance.

He is very charitable, has opened a dispensary at Bithur, and has constructed, at his own cost, a railway line from Mandhana to Bramhavart, which has given a great impetus to trade. There is good game in his forests, and many Europeans visit him on shooting trips and enjoy his well-known hospitality. He has a son, Vaman Rao Bhaiya Sahib, and a grandson, Govind Rao Bhau Rajah. He is exempted from the operations of the Arms Act. He is held in high esteem by the authorities and enjoys the confidence of the Government as a citizen of unswerving loyalty. He manages his estates in a most efficient manner.

ULNAT KOCHUKRISHNA MOOTHA PANICKER

Ulnat Tarwad is situated in Venkitang Desom of the Ponnani Taluk, Malabar District. This distinguished family follows the Marumakkathayam law. The training of men to become sepoys with practice in swordsmanship and wrestling was the hereditary occupation of the family. Its status as Guru enabled it to collect at short notice a force of well-trained men when there was need for it. Adjoining the family seat, there is still a Kalari, which was the old gymnasium or the Military College. In this institution, members of well-to-do families came to be trained for the military profession.

The most important person to whom the family owes its present greatness is the celebrated Ukkanda Panicker Kariakkar, whose memory is cherished with deep veneration and affection by all its members. He flourished at the most fruitful of times for adventurous spirits. The unsettled state of the country that followed the various proselytizing expeditions of Tippu offered a chance to the ambitious youth of distinguishing himself.

Ukkanda Panicker was born about 1753 A. D. He was therefore in his manhood when Tippu frequently visited Malabar. When he was twenty years of age, he betook himself to the court of the Zamorin, who was then ruler of Malabar. Ukkanda Panicker was an accomplished warrior, and he occupied various posts in the palace and steadily rose into favour with his Chief.

About 1780 A. D., the storm in Mysore that was soon to overspread Malabar and bring about destruction and distress in the State alarmed the peace-loving Zamorin and his officials. Capable men were sent around to guard his possessions. Under the title of Kariakkar, Ukkanda Panicker was naturally sent to the south (the old Chowghat Taluk) with absolute powers of government. He went to raise his own men and find the needed funds in the best way he could. It cannot be supposed that under the circumstances Ukkanda Panicker was able to do any considerable damage to the Mysorean. Along the line of Tippu's camping grounds and temporary fortresses between Cranganoor and Chowghat, Ulnat Tarwad possesses considerable landed property. There is a saying still current that Ukkanda Panicker's conquest was at the point of his sword. This can only mean that Ukkanda Panicker appropriated to himself the property of his enemies who had helped Tippu on his way to Cochin,

Whatever might have been the importance of the part played by him in the wars of Tippu, there was no gainsaying the fact that he was a tower of strength to the distressed people when the fanatic hordes of the invading Mussalman overran the country. The rich Kerala Brahmins entrusted their property for safe custody with Ukkanda Panicker and fled to Travancore. When peace was established, they came back to their homes and had their property safely returned. Men and women rendered homeless and penniless fled to him for protection. When the East India Company assumed the government of the country, Ukkanda Panicker was requested by them to make the people submissive to their rule. He did yeoman service to the English in those trying times and received the warm thanks of the responsible officials for it.

After Tippu's invasion, the Guruwayar temple, the most celebrated in Kerala, was rebuilt by Ukkanda Panicker. It is said that he spent out of his own pocket Rs. 77,000 for its construction.

The vast fortune that the family possesses was made by Ukkanda Panicker. He executed a will by which he set apart a certain portion of the properties for the maintenance of temples, choultries, and for other charitable purposes. He also interested himself in commerce. Mention is made in his will of the articles of merchandise that had belonged to him. He died in 1825 A.D.

Since Ukkanda Panicker's death, nothing of very great importance has occurred in the family. The family has inherited a hoard in the shape of gold ornaments, precious stones, and coins of gold and silver. His brother who succeeded him added to it. Then took place one of the most daring dacoities ever heard of in Malabar. On a certain night, when all the inmates of the house were fast asleep, a gang of five hundred men with torch lights in their hands entered it and carried away ornaments, goods, and chattels worth several lakhs. Since 1825 five Karnavans have assumed the management of the Tarwad.

The present head of the family, Sri Kochukrishna Mootha Panicker, became the Karnavan in 1909. In him the old and the new happily blend in perfect harmony. He is a man of progressive ideas and liberal views. He manages the affairs of the Tarwad on the lines laid down by Ukkanda Panicker. He attends to the repairs of the buildings and temples belonging to the Tarwad and also sees to their proper management. It is gratifying to state that every movement of public utility finds in him an ardent supporter.

The Tarwad was paying Rs. 800 and odd previous to the settlement, but it now pays as kist about Rs. 15,000 to the Government. The loyalty and devotion of the tenants of the Tarwad are indeed an asset of which the family may well be proud. The Panicker's tenantry are on the whole more prosperous than their neighbours.

SIR V. KRISHNAN NAMBOODRI OF THE VARNAKKOTE ESTATE

The Varnakkote estate is one of the most ancient estates in the Cheruthazhom Amsam of the Chirakkal Taluk, North Malabar District, Madras Presidency. It owns more than 10,000 acres of wet, dry, and garden lands paying a Government assessment of nearly Rs. 7,000, and valued at about Rs. 12,00,000 on a rough calculation exclusive of individual acquisition. The family of Sri Krishnan Namboodri stands at the head of a large community of high class orthodox Brahmins living in the five ancient villages of Cheruthazhom, Kunnaru, Arathil, Kolaprom and Vararuchimangalam (now consisting of about fifteen villages) which formed parts of Perinchallur gramom of the ancient Kolaswaroopam. Prior to the advent of the British administration the Rajahs of this estate were the independent sovereign rulers of the whole of North Malabar, including Wynad, and of Kasergode Taluk of the South Canara District. They had many warrior princes, mighty chiefs, and landed proprietors under them. They are now represented chiefly by the family of Chirakkal, the most predominant and affluent of the several branches into which the Kolaswaroopam was split up some centuries ago.

This Varnakkote family together with 236 other Brahmin families was invited to colonise this part of Malabar from Northern India about 792 A. D., or thirty-three years before the commencement of the Malayalam Era. The sovereign then reigning was Kolathiri Rajah of wonderful achievements, named Udaya Varma Rajah of Udayamangalam palace. The new colonies were set up, because there were no good Brahmins in his Perinchallur gramom for the due performance of the vedic functions. These Brahmins headed by the members of the Varnakkote family accompanied the Rajah as far as the famous holy temple of Gokarna, whence they strongly objected to proceed further. The Rajah caused the construction of the "Kotittheertham", the holy tank of the Gokarna temple in a single night and convinced the Brahmins of his might and resources. He left Gokarna accompanied by them and his countless followers, and arrived at his capital in a most triumphant manner. On an auspicious

day, the Brahmins were located in the aforementioned five villages. In appreciation of the hearty co-operation rendered by the head of this family, the Rajah granted to it certain special rights and privileges, and conferred on it the title of " Desavazhi Varnakkote," with powers to enquire into and settle all matters involving social and religious questions. Besides these, four important temples, called " Sree Raghavapuram," "Sree Krishnapuram," "Sree Bhadrapuram" and "Udayapuram," all situated in the vicinity of the Varnakkote family quarters, were granted to it, with absolute proprietary right and liberally endowed for their maintenance and upkeep. The head of this family was made the hereditary President of a Corporation, called Sree Raghavapuram Sabhayogam, organised for the guidance of the Brahmins in respect of their religious studies and observances and for regulating their social customs. These facts are evidenced by a royal writ issued by Ravi Varma Rajah of Chirakkal in M. E. 975 (1800 A. D.) to the members of the thirty-six houses of Cheruthazhom including this family. It is also seen from a proceedings of the Collector of Malabar passed after an enquiry held at Baliapatam, the ancient capital of the Rajahs of Chirakkal, on the 16th Makarom 998 (27th January 1823), that the Chirakkal Rajah was the ruler,and the Varanakkote Namboodri, the *Desavazhi*. Another royal writ issued in 1819 A. D. by the Rajah of Nileswar in the Kesaragode, Taluk of the South Canara District shows that the social and religious supremacy of this family extended even beyond the Malabar portion of Kolaswaroopam.

The rights, titles, and privileges conferred on this family were enjoyed by it undisputed up to 1868 A. D., when the Rajah of Chirakkal, out of a private spite against one of its members, set up another family, named Chettoor, to institute a civil suit against the Rajah and four others including the head of this family. The elaborate judgment of the Sub Court of North Malabar in O. S. No. 227 of 1870 confirmed the supremacy of the family and set at naught the claim of the Rajah to cancel the right once vested in it. The decision was confirmed by the Madras High Court in second appeal No. 505 of 1871. Since the days of the Kolathiri Rajah,several members of this family have occupied very high offices in and outside the Palace, and one of its heads held the Prime Ministership of Chirakkal. When the British assumed power the Collector of Malabar in 1828 issued the hereditary sanad of adhikariship of Kunhimangalam Hobli in the Kavai Taluk to Desavazhi Varanakkote Narayanan Namboodri, and, in consideration of the prominent position held by this family in ancient days, appointed Varanakkote Govindan Namboodri, the grandfather of Varanakkote Krishnan Namboodri, the present Manager of the estate and the subject of this

sketch, as the Tahsildar of Kavai Taluk in 1827. He died in a twelvemonth after an exemplary service.

The ancestors of this family have been noted for their amity and attachment to one another and for their extreme orthodoxy. The estate has established temples and other religious institutions and maintains them at a cost of about Rs. 5,000 annually. It keeps going the family choultry which feeds on an average about 100 persons (Brahmins, Byragees, and other travellers), daily, irrespective of caste or creed.

After the death of Govindan Namboodri who was Tahsildar of Kavai Taluk, the mangement of the estate fell to his younger brother, Subramanian Namboodri, who was also the Adhikari of Cheruthazhom and Korom Amsams. He was a good gentleman, and the ancestral property more than trebled under his management. He died in 1825 and was succeeded by his nephew, Vishnu Namboodri, father of Krishnan Namboodri. He was a typical manager and had a religious turn of mind. He had an important *yagam* performed at a cost of about Rs. 10,000, which won for him the reverential title of Adithirippad in 1843. He died in 1865 having made considerable additions to the estate properties and left his third son, Krishnan Namboodri, in charge of it, who was then a lad of sixteen summers.

He has effected certain material and much-needed repairs to the old palatial family quarters and choultry attached thereto and constructed many new buildings for the use and convenience of the members of the family and their dependants and for visitors and guests at a cost of nearly a lakh of rupees. He has expended more than a lakh in the celebration of marriages, upanayanams, etc. His litigations have cost him about a lakh and a half. In addition to all these he has acquired landed properties worth a lakh of rupees in Malabar, besides his valuable acquisition in the Travancore State in his own name. He has rendered himself famous by his munificence.

In 1888 he visited Travancore and had an interview with His Highness the Maharajah who received him very kindly and allowed him the pleasure of a long conversation on various matters. He presented him with a gold Veerasringkhala (a chain-like gold bangle) and ordered all his conveniences to be attended to at the expense of the State. During his stay there, he visited several places of importance and sumptuously feasted a large number of Brahmins and gave them liberal presents in gold and money. These acts of charity cost him more than Rs. 10,000.

In his newly-purchased village of Kavalam Kannadi, he constructed a Vishnu temple in memory of his beloved father. This estate and the temple are managed by a local agent. On his return home the next year, he

visited the famous temple of Trichur (Trishivaperur) in the Cochin State. In 1891 he excavated a big tank, nearly four acres in extent to the west of the family quarters and choultry at a cost of about Rs. 7,500, for the use of the public. It is also used for the cultivation of the surrounding paddy fields. In 1899 a temple was constructed on the northern slope of the hill known by the name of Kottakkunnu (hill-fort) standing on the south-east corner of the family quarters and was dedicated to the god *Sreebhothanathan.* The construction and installation ceremony cost him Rs. 30,000 and lands yielding Rs. 1,000 annually have been set apart for the maintenance and upkeep of the temple. To the south of it there is a beautiful garden tastefully laid out which contains various rare and valuable European and Indian plants and fruit trees got from Bombay, Poona, Ootacamund, and other places, and which has, in the middle, a neat-designed octagonal bungalow. In all the places where he is known he is greatly respected and admired. He possesses keen intelligence, prepossessing appearance, untiring diligence and exemplary business capacities, and is frank, unassuming, highly benevolent, generous and charitable and of a most amiable disposition. He has won the good-will, esteem, admiration and affection of one and all the members of the family and left a noble record of useful and philanthropic life.

In his younger days he took keen interest in agriculture and reclaimed about 100 acres of marsh waste land, which yield paddy worth more than Rs. 5,500 annually. The reclamation cost him more than Rs. 60,000, and supplied thousands of persons with labour for many months.

He served for many years as a member of the Local Fund Board of North Malabar and has, for some years past, been a member of the Jenmi Sabha of Malabar since its organization, and of the Agricultural Society of North Malabar.

Like all his predecessors he has, from his boyhood, regarded loyalty as a sacred duty and has, during the long period of nearly half a century of his management, been very strict and accurate in the regular and punctual payment of the Government assessment without giving the slightest room for complaint.

A free primary school, a long-felt local want, was recently set up about half a mile to the east of the family residence and has on the rolls about 150 boys and girls of all classes.

It is regrettable that this ancient and reputed family has no name abroad on account of its seclusion and lack of western culture. The history of this family cannot but be meagre on account of its flight to Trivandram to escape from Tippu Sultan's compulsory proselytization and of its permanent settlement there.

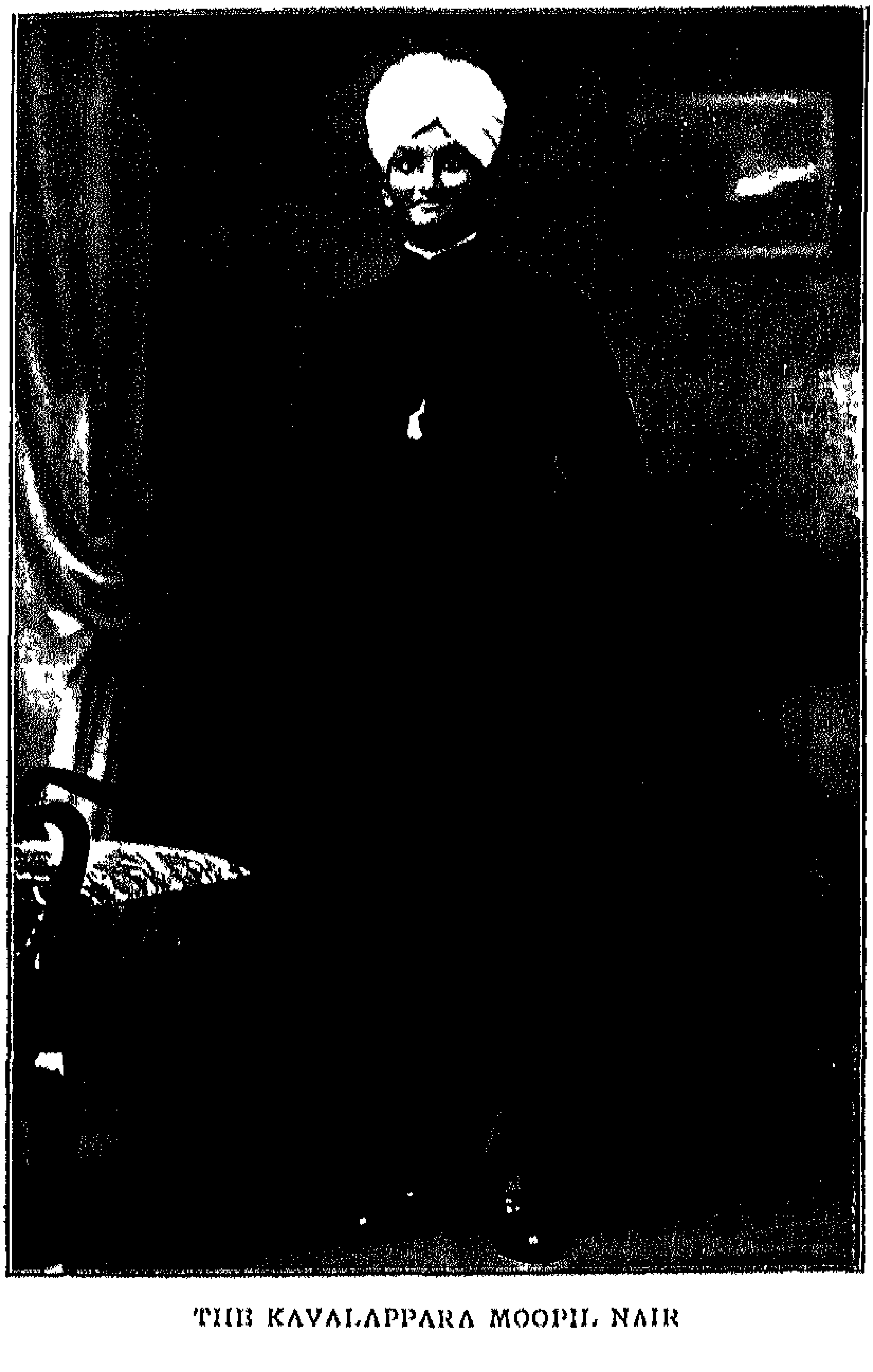
THE HONOURABLE SRI KARAKAT KUMARAN RAMAN APPUKKUTTEN UNNI

KAVALAPPARA MOOPIL NAIR (MALABAR DISTRICT)

Kavalappara is equidistant from Shoranur and Vaniyankulam, near the Pattambi road, and is the residence of the Kavalappara Nair. It is a great Brahmin centre, and has within a radius of two miles of the house no less than forty Nambudiri Illams. The Rev. H. Gundhert calls it a petty principality, once famous for learned men. The estates which are extensive lie partly in the Palghat Taluk, partly in the Walluvanad Taluk and in the Amsoms round about the house, and partly in the Cochin State. The total area of the estate is about 17,000 acres, most of it being paddy fields, and the major portion of it is under that peculiar sort of land tenure, known only to Malabar, and called Kanom tenure.

There are various theories about the origin of the estate, and the one that is generally accepted is what is given in the Gazetteer of Malabar. "The family is said to have acquired its estate from Cheraman Perumal on his departure for Mecca. When the Nair arrived, so the story goes, Cheraman Perumal had distributed all his territory except a block of twelve square miles in Nedunganad which no one wanted, because it was reported to be all rock. The Nair accepted the tract and finding it to be not all rock gave it the name Kavalappara or false rock." There are proofs enough to show that the Chief in the old days was quite independent. Logan's Manual of the Malabar District says, "On the same day (12th July 1792) the Kavalappara Nair acknowledged the Honourable Company's sovereignty, and was installed in his territory for one year. As, however, the Cochin Rajah had advanced his claim to the sovereignty over the Nair's territory, the Nair was further bound to abide by the decision of the Hon'ble Company in the matter. It may be added that the Nair shortly afterwards proved to the satisfaction of the Commissioners that he was really independent of the Cochin Rajah, and the decision was accordingly given in his favour on this point."

The Cochin State Manual says on the subject :—" The claim to Kavalappara, Temalapuram, and Vadamalpuram was decided against Cochin.



THE KAVALAPPARA MOOPIL NAIR

The Kavalappara Nair as such was generally an independent Chief, and was certainly so since 1760 when the Zamorin attacked him and was defeated by him with the Rajahs of Cochin and Walluvanad. But he had other titles and estates; as Ayyazhi Pata Nair and Vadakkum Nambidi, he undoubtedly was and still is under Cochin, and as Kanjur Pata Nair he was similarly under the Zamorin." In a foot note is given, "To compare small things with great his position was similar to that of the Norman Kings of England, who, as Dukes of Normandy, were the vassals of France, while as Kings of England they were independent." This clearly explains his position in the old days He was as far as we can see inclined to be an adversary to the Zamorin, quite unlike most of the Chiefs in those parts. He was in this no doubt helped by the Rajah of Cochin and by the Maharajah of Travancore. In illustration of it we may refer to the fact that the residence of the Kavalappara Nair, unlike those of the other Chiefs, is called a *Kottaram,* which is the word used generally in Travancore. The story goes that the Zamorin or his people in those days made frequent raids and made it impossible for the Nair to have a permanent abode; whereupon he appealed to the Maharajah of Travancore for help. The Maharajah of the time gave him permission to erect a building and call it a Kottaram, to make it impossible for the Zamorin to destroy it without insulting the Maharajah. There are also certain observances that corroborate this story, and they are directly opposed to those current in the parts where the Zamorin ruled.

It will hardly serve any good purpose to give a complete list of the former Chiefs, but it is sufficient to say that most of them were great athletes and some of them were distinguished in the arts of native medicine and surgery. One particular instance must be mentioned here as it has given the later Nairs of Kavalappara a few important privileges. It happened in an invasion made by one of the generals of Tippu Sultan. The Nambudiri women round about were captured and shut up in a house hard by with the intention of forcing them to eat the sacred cow's flesh. Fortunately at the time the Nair was touring about in one of his Kalams. The Nambudiri husbands of the women took scent of the object of the general, and ran to the Nair for help. He thereupon hastened to his capital with his followers; and the general and his men were so frightened by the mere athletic forms and the sword tricks of the Nair and his followers that they took to their heels to save their lives. The women were thus saved from a crisis, and the Nambudiris gave the Nair and his descendants the particular privilege of having his meals with the Brahmins, which is called *Pankthibhojanam.* Wherever a *yaga* is performed by a Nambudiri of Kavalappara, the Moopil Nair is requested to be

present and he is appointed the protector of their holy rite. From that time no Moppalas were allowed to settle in the Walluvanad portion of his estate; and it is still the case.

The eldest member of the family is called the Moopil Nair, who is the proprietor of the estate, since the Marumakkathayam rule of succession, which is peculiar to the Malayalees, prevails also in this family. He receives a Malikhana of Rs. 4,567-10-3 per annum from the Government of Madras. The second Nair is called Elaya Nair.

In 1872 the then Moopil Nair died, leaving a sickly girl of six years as the only remaining member of the family. The Court of Wards took over the management of the estate with its heavy debts and administered it till Parvathi Neithyar attained her majority. She then expressed her wish that the Court of Wards should continue its administration until her son came of age. Her wish was respected. But unfortunately her first son who was then studying at Calicut died of fever; and this, of course, lengthened the period of the administration of the estate by the Court. Parvathi Neithyar died in 1904, leaving three sons and two daughters.

The present Moopil Nair, Sri **Appukkutten Unni,** also known as Karakat Kumaran Raman, who is just twenty-six years of age, was in his early days educated in the estate school at Kavalappara. But later on, in 1900, he was taken to the Court of Wards institution, called Newington, at Madras, where, in addition to his education, he had the good fortune of mingling with young men of equal and superior rank who were also wards. After passing his Matriculation Examination in 1906 as a private candidate, he joined the Madras Christian College and got through the F. A. Examination in 1908. He studied for his B. A., for a term but had to give up his college course so as to have the benefit of the one year's training in estate management which is generally given to all the wards leaving Newington. On the 13th August 1910, the estate was restored to him with a decent balance after a period of thirty-eight years of beneficent management by the Court of Wards. It is the desire of the Moopil Nair to keep up the efficient management as far as possible and do good to all whom Providence has placed under his charge.

THAKUR HARPAL SINGH
SPECIAL MAGISTRATE AND TALUKDAR OF SINGRAMAU
(JAUNPUR DISTRICT, U. P.)

This nobleman belongs to the clan of Bais which owes its origin to Rajah Salbahan Chhatri, who, about nineteen centuries ago, had defeated Pawar (Rajah Vikramaditta), and married his daughter. He proclaimed an era after his own name in supersession of the one hitherto called after the banished Chief. The foundation of Sialkot and Mungipattan was also laid by him about this time. Twenty generations afterwards, there were born in the family Rajah Abhai Chand and Prithi Chand. On a certain occasion, they went with a force to Sheorajpur in the Fatehpur District to take a bath in the Ganges, when they liberated the wife of the Rajah of Argil, who was a captive in the hands of the Subahdar of Allahabad. Prithi Chand was killed in the battle that ensued. Rajah Abhai Chand, who escorted the Rani to her husband, obtained from him as reward his daughter in marriage with a large estate as dowry. He then returned to Sheorajpur and, expelling the Bhar Rajahs, took possession of their *Ilaqa* and the estate thus formed was called Baiswara (the estate of the twentieth descendant of Rajah Salbahan), with Murarmau as its head-quarters. The Rajah of Murarmau is still respected by the Bais Chhatris as their head. The descendants of Rajah Abhai Chand owned different estates in the several districts of the United Provinces.

The tenth of the successors of Prithi Chand, Dalai Rai, while on a pilgrimage to Prayag, obtained Singramau after killing its Chief, who had forced a Brahmin subject of his to give away his daughter in marriage to him. Singramau then comprised eighty-four villages. Two of his other brothers, Man Sah, and Hem Sah, expelled the Bhar Rajahs, and constituted two estates in their names, namely, Patra and Mansahi, in the Partabgarh District, which are still held by their descendants as ordinary zamindari estates. The successors of Dalai Rai have retained their family custom of succession according to the law of primogeniture. The tenth

Chief after Dalai Rai was Dokhant Rai, who had four sons, of whom the youngest, Inder Rai, died without issue. Jaisakh Rai and Parsutam Rai, second and third sons, received maintenance allowance, while the eldest son, Bikram Singh, became the Chief. Bikram Singh had three sons, the eldest, Singh Jee, succeeded to the *gadi*. He was followed by his only son, Dammar Singh, who had four sons, of whom the eldest, Meherban Singh, dying without heir, his second brother, Abdhut Singh, was raised to the *gadi*. It was during his time that the estate of Singramau, which was in the province of the Nawab of Oudh, was ceded to the East India Company according to the treaties of 1774-5. The Company made a permanent settlement with his nephew and successor, Sangram Singh, in 1775. Sangram Singh died in 1820, when he was succeeded by his eldest son, Gajraj Singh. Prithipal Singh, grandson of Dammar Singh, by his youngest son, Lal Bahadur Singh, and the great-grandfather of Thakur Harpal Singh, the subject of this sketch, claimed a partition of the estate. On the 20th September 1832, the Court of Sadar Adalat Diwani, Allahabad, ruled that the Singramau estate was impartible and that the special rule of descent by right of primogeniture had been observed from time immemorial.

During Thakur Gajraj Singh's time, there was an addition of four villages to the estate. On his death in 1858, he was succeeded by his elder son, Thakur Randheer Singh, and his younger son, Thakur Jagernath Singh, received maintenance allowance. In 1871 Thakur Raghunath Singh, the brother of Thakur Gajraj Singh, claimed half the estate and filed a suit, which was dismissed by the High Court of Allahabad on the 31st January 1873, on the ground that the talukdari was impartible and that no claim for partition could be made. In recognition of the loyal services rendered by Thakur Randheer Singh, during the Mutiny of 1857, the title of *Rai Bahadur* was conferred on him. Thakur Jagernath Singh, and his elder son, Thakur Ruderpal Singh, predeceased Rai Randhir Singh Bahadur. As Thakur Sheopal Singh, the only nephew of Rai Randhir Singh Bahadur, was quite incompetent and incapable of managing the estate, Rai Randhir Singh Bahadur executed a will in favour of his junior wife, Thakurain Sanau Kunwar, for the entire estate, and for the continuance of the maintenance allowance to Thakur Sheopal Singh. Rai Randhir Singh Bahadur died on the 4th January 1895, when a litigation as to the succession arose between Thakur Sheopal Singh and Thakurain Sanau Kunwar for alteration of their names in the revenue courts. The latter was successful on the basis of the will of Rai Randhir Singh Bahadur. Thakur Sheopal Singh filed a civil suit in the Court of the Subordinate Judge, Jaunpur, alleging that the will of Rai Randhir Singh Bahadur was

invalid for want of administrative and disposing capacity in him on account of his extreme old age, and that Thakur Sheopal Singh was entitled to the *gadi*, under the special custom of succession in the family. The suit was compromised, and Thakurain Sanau Kunwar was allowed to remain in possession of the estate without any power to transfer, and Thakur Sheopal Singh to receive a sum of Rs. 12,000 a year. Thakur Sheopal Singh died on the 27th May 1899, when his wife, Thakurain Lekhraj Kunwar, sued Thakurain Sanau Kunwar for the arrears of allowance due to her husband and for the declaration of her being a representative of her husband for the purpose of succession to the estate. The suit for the arrears was decreed and that in respect of the declaration dismissed. Appeal and cross-appeal were preferred by the parties to the High Court. During the pendency of the appeal, Thakurain Sanau Kunwar died on the 20th June 1904, whereupon applications for the mutation of names were made by Thakurain Lekhraj Kunwar, Thakur Shamsher Bahadur Singh, Thakur Harpal Singh, and Thakurain Janki Kunwar, widow of Thakur Ruderpal Singh. On the 6th July 1904, the Revenue Court ordered the change of Thakur Harpal Singh's name according to the rule of primogeniture in preference to his uncle, Thakur Shamsher Bahadur Singh, and the ladies mentioned above. Thakurain Lekhraj Kunwar began litigation in the Court of the Subordinate Judge of Jaunpur making the allegation that the estate was the self-acquired property of her husband, and that she was entitled to it as his representative. The Court of the first instance decreed the claim. Thakur Harpal Singh preferred an appeal to the High Court, which decided that by the custom of *gaddinashin* and the right of primogeniture, Thakur Harpal Singh was entitled to the estate. Thakur Lekhraj Kunwar appealed against this decision to the Privy Council, which dismissed the appeal on the 22nd November 1911, and held that the estate was impartible and that the law of primogeniture prevailed in the family.

The estate maintains one mundir in Ajodhia jee and one *Shiwala* and a *chetra* in Benares. There are three mundirs, namely, *Mahakali*, *Lachhmi Narain*, and *Gouri Shankar*, in Singramau, and a *dharmashala* is attached to each temple. A *Sadabart* is also maintained in Singramau. There is an aided dispensary in that town. A sum of about Rs. 3,300 is spent annually towards the maintenance of temples and charitable works.

The present Talukdar and Special Magistrate of Singramau is Thakur Harpal Singh, born in Summat Bikrami 1935 (1877). He is the son of Thakur Jadunath Singh, and grandson of Thakur Udit Narain Singh, and great-grandson of Thakur Prithipal Singh, referred to above. The estate now consists of ninety-four villages. The land revenue payable to Government is Rs. 26,904. The annual Nekasi of the talukdari amounts to Rs. 90,000.

SARDAR CAPTAIN GUNPUT RAO MAHURKER
A. D. C. to H. H. THE MAHARAJAH
SCINDIA OF GWALIOR

The subject of this sketch is one of the most distinguished members of the aristocracy of Gwalior. The first of the family to come into prominence was Bhikaji Mahurker. He was a Sardar in the service of the Peshwa, and, during the wars of those days, was severely wounded at the battle of Badami Fort. He had four sons, of whom the eldest, Sultan Rao Mahurker, proceeded to Upper-India with the great Mahdaji Scindia, and was engaged by Maharajah Mahdaji Scindia to capture the notorious Golam Kadir. In this great strife one of the younger brothers of Sultan Rao was badly wounded. After the successful capture of Golam Kadir, Maharajah Mahdaji Scindia went to Poona, and Sultan Rao was made a full Sardar. Sultan Rao also accompanied Maharajah Daulat Rao Scindia (the successor of the great Maharajah Mahdaji) to Gwalior. He was an unselfish person, and on his return to the Deccan, willingly left his own Sardari in the hands of his younger brother, Santaji. After some time, it pleased the Maharajah Daulat Rao Scindia to recall Sultan Rao from the Deccan, and the latter managed by sheer dint of work a separate *Naukar*. He left a son, Jugdeo Rao, also called Baba Sahib Mahurker,

When H. H. the Maharajah Jayaji Rao Scindia Aleejah Bahadur came to the throne, Jugdeo Rao Baba Mahurker was appointed preceptor and guardian to His Highness, at the suggestion of the British Government, and for the satisfactory services rendered in this capacity, pleasing alike to Scindia and the British, the title of *Lal Saheb* was conferred on him by the Maharajah. Jugdeo Rao was a contemporary of Rao Rajah Sir Dinkur Rao, and rendered meritorious service in the dark days of the Mutiny of 1857-58. It was by his sagacious and timely advice supported by Rao Rajah Sir Dinkur Rao, and Baba Bulwant Rao Jinseewala, that H.H. the Maharajah Jayaji Rao Scindia remained firm and loyal when his troops rebelled, and sought British protection in the Agra fort.

The confidence that the British had in Baba Mahurker, who was known to many officers in the British army, gained for the Maharajah admission into the Agra fort at this time when the British could not be sure of the motives of the Ruling Chiefs. The treaty of Benares, dated the 12th December 1860, between the British and H.H. the Maharajah Jayaji Rao Scindia Aleejah Bahadur, was arranged through the exertions of Baba Jugdeo Rao Mahurker, Commander-in-Chief of Scindia's army, and it was he who was deputed to sign the treaty on behalf of the Maharajah.

The valuable services rendered by Jugdeo Rao Mahurker to the British Government and H. H. the Maharajah Scindia made the Government think it fit to confer on Baba Jugdeo Rao some villages as jaghirs in perpetuity to him, and his heirs, lineal or adopted. The Maharajah signalised Baba Jugdeo Rao Mahurker's valuable services by the grant of two jaghirs, Bhopawer in Malwa, and Arnia in Zilla Neemuch of the Gwalior territory, and also got for him from the British Government in jaghir the village of Mahur (from which the family derives its name). Mahur lies in the Taluka of Porundher, Zilla Poona; and Verror Budrookh in the Taluka of Sheogaon, Zilla Ahmednagar. Both these villages are in the Bombay Presidency, while the three others, Ramesra, Satwasa, and Nainpur, at present in Lalitpur, Jhansi Sub-Division, are in the North-Western Provinces. Besides these great emoluments in perpetuity, Baba Jugdeo Rao Mahurker held the office of Commander-in-Chief, styled "Junji-Lat." This post was of the highest importance in those days of unrest and trouble. The Maharajah Scindia further showed his thorough appreciation of Baba Mahurker by getting him appointed a First Class Sardar of the Deccan, and *Pateel Mokadum, Sirdesh mookh*, Inamdar and Jaghirdar, all rare honours in the Mahratta country. To narrate even a part of the life of Jugdeo Rao would be to record the political history of the last reign which is beyond the scope of this sketch. Suffice it to say that Jugdeo Rao continued to enjoy the high esteem of his royal sovereign, to the end of his life. The highest aspiration of his life was to get his Wuttun, Mahur, as jaghir, in perpetuity, which has a charm for all spirited Mahrattas, and this he succeeded in obtaining on the special recommendation of the Maharajah Scindia, and Lord Canning, Viceroy of India. Jugdeo Rao Baba Sahib Mahurker died on the 6th January 1872.

He had three sons, Sultan Rao, Sautaji Rao, and Anand Rao, of whom the eldest succeeded to all his illustrious father's estates and titles. Sautaji Rao was given in adoption, in the life-time of his father, to another house of the Mahurker family, for the sardari of which he was getting a monthly allowance of Rs. 1,000 from the Gwalior Durbar;

but as he incurred the displeasure of Maharajah Jayaji Rao Scindia, his allowance was reduced to only one hundred rupees a month.

Sultán Rao (Apasahib Mahurker), for his approved service, obtained from Maharajah Jayaji Rao Scindia on the 15th June 1852, a separate jaghir Kasba "Parsen" in perpetuity in the suburbs of Gwalior, under the grant of a sanad in his own name. His Highness had the rank of a First Class Sardar in the Deccan renewed to him through the Bombay Government, who recommended him for the honour in the following words :—"Sultan Rao Mahurker is equal in rank and position to the Minister (Dewan) of Gwalior."

Sultan Rao Mahurker having been born on the 27th September 1837 was nearly thirty-six years old when he succeeded his father. He was a man of sterling worth, and it was in his time that the marriage of Maharajah Jayaji Rao Scindia with the daughter of Sardar Krishna Rao Bapusahib Jadho took place. It was celebrated in 1874, at the gadhi of Sultan Rao's jaghir Parsen, in Gird Gwalior, under a great hailstorm and heavy rain. It is worthy of note because it was by this wife's (now H. H. the Dawager Maharani Sakhya Rajah Sahib Scindia) giving birth to a son, that the late Maharajah Jayaji Rao Scindia was succeeded by a lineal heir, the present ruler, Major-General H. H. the Maharajah Madho Rao Scindia, while his fore fathers had all succeeded by adoption to the throne of Gwalior. Sultan Rao's eldest son, Gunput Rao Mahurker, was born on the 21st July 1871, and the next, Krishna Rao, on the 7th November 1875. Sultan Rao Mahurker gave his sons the best possible education. He died on the 13th May 1892, and, according to the time-honored custom, his elder son, Sardar Gunput Rao, then twenty-two years old, succeeded with full powers to the entire estate, and to all moveable and immoveable properties. Gunput Rao first began his studies under Thakur Ram Singh, M. A., and then under several European teachers. Later on he joined the St. Peter's College, Agra, but the finishing touch to his education was given under Colonel A. M. Crofts and Mr. J. W. D. Johnstone, tutors to the present Maharajah of Gwalior, whose companion in studies Sardar Gunput Rao was. In the enlightened company of His Highness, the young Sardar became an expert in riding, shooting and other manly sports, and won many cups in competitions. He awakened such keen interest in His Highness towards himself that on the Dussera of 1892, he was honored with a Khilat of Sardari in open durbar. Soon afterwards, his young sovereign got him the first class Sardari from the British Government, and gave him all his hereditary Jaghirs in Gwalior and in the British territories. Sardar Gunput Rao stood so much in the good graces

of His Highness that he was further honoured by being appointed "Naib-Dewan" of the royal household, called the "Mahekma-Karkhanajat," on the 5th October 1897. By the orders of the same date, it also pleased His Highness to increase the Sardar's income by an additional monthly allowance of Rs.500 for the Naib-Dewanship. Moreover, he was appointed Vice-President of a committee formed to compile the regulations of the Mahekma-Karkhanajat, under the special guidance of His Highness, and a regulation has since then been printed by which each and every Karkhanadar, or any officer under the said department, has only to see it, and he knows perfectly what he has to do on a certain day of event or State function. Sardar Gunput Rao with His Highness the Maharajah has had the opportunity of attending the State Durbars held at Calcutta, during the regime of Lords Elgin and Curzon, and the Delhi Durbar of 1903. He was also present at many other State receptions of Ruling Chiefs, such as the Maharajahs of Travancore, Bikanir, Baroda, Dewas, Kolhapur, Jaipur, Dholpur, Duttiah, Rampur, Indore, the Amir of Kabul, and many honourable and royal personages of Europe.

H. R. H. the Grand Duke of Hesse especially was so much pleased with Sardar Gunput Rao Mahurker (on a shooting trip), that he presented him with a good Manulicher rifle and a cup of silver and gold, marked with H. R. H's initials and crown, and the year.

In response to an invitation issued to him, the Sardar attended the State Durbar at Bombay held on the 10th November 1905, in honour of the first visit to India of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. He had again the opportunity of taking part in the durbars, banquets, etc., got up when Their Royal Highnesses visited Gwalior.

The Sardar is the first person who has personally seen and made a careful tour of his hereditary estates of Mahur, Bhopawar, and Parsen. Their Highnesses the Maharajah and the Maharani have honoured the Sardar with their presence at his own house, on various occasions of marriage ceremonies, and State and private banquets. He has also had the honour on many occasions of receiving at his residence His Highness the present Maharajah.

As for the Sardar's honoured privileges, he is allowed a *palkhi*, an elephant, a horse decked with gold ornaments, *Nishan*, *Lagis*, *Balamis*, *Bans*, *Daffedar*, *Halkaras*, *a chowri*, with a silver handle, a silver mace, an *Abdagiri*, and a gold-laced yellow-coloured umbrella. He is allowed on State occasions to enter the royal palace below the Nagarkhana Gates, seated in his conveyance, and alights at the royal staircase. Further, when any *poshak* or dress of honour is to be given according to custom, the Sardar receives a necklace, *sirpech*, and five *parchas* or clothes of honour, all seven in number, which is the sign of the highest and most

honourable regard. He also receives through a *Kharita* invitation from the British Government to attend the State durbars on the King-Emperor's birthday, and for other important functions. While holding the most important charge of Naib-Dewan, Sardar Gunput Rao worked very satisfactorily for some years, after which it pleased His Highness to make him his Aid-de-Camp on the 9th June 1899, which noble position he still holds.

Under His Highness's orders the Sardar has had the opportunity of learning the work of Postmaster-General, and has received a good certificate for it from Rai Bahadur Daulat Rao, C. I. E., the then Postmaster—General at Gwalior. Moreover, by His Highness's special orders Sardar Gunput Rao has also gained a good knowledge of arms and ammunition having been in charge of His Highness's private armoury for nine years.

The Sardar was allowed to undergo a training in military drill, and was most graciously honoured by being made an honoray Captain on His Highness's birthday, on the 7th November 1910.

Sardar Gunput Rao Mahurker has two sons and two daughters, of whom Sultan Rao Bapusahib Mahurker, the eldest son and heir-apparent, was born on the 3rd July 1892. He is being educated at the Sardar School, Gwalior. The second son, Ramchender Rao Apasahib Mahurker, born on the 28th June 1894, is attending the Victoria College at Lashker, Gwalior. Sultan Rao Bapusahib was married on the 18th May 1910 to a lady of the Sirke Raja family at Gwalior. He is a promising young nobleman, an intrepid rider, and a good huntsman. Being a cadet he had the honour of escorting Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, during their first visit to Gwalior, on the 20th December 1905. Himself and his younger brother, Ramchender Rao, who were invited to join in the Christmas festivities, held in honour of Their Royal Highnesses, were lucky in securing presents and prizes from the hands of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, now Queen Mary, Empress of India.

At the invitation of the Government of Bombay, Sardar Gunput Rao Mahurker was present in Bombay to receive Their Majesties, the King-Emperor and the Queen-Empress, when they landed in Bombay to proceed to Delhi for their Coronation in December 1911.

Providence has lately favoured Sultan Rao Bapu Sahib Mahurker with a son and heir, born on the 21st January 1914, and Sardar Gunput Rao has been lucky, as is said in the Hindu Shastras, in having a grandson.

Sardar Gunput Rao Mahurker has had occasion to thank His Highness for many things, but most of all for the way in which his legitimate inheritance was made over to him after his father's death. In fact all that the Sardar may hereafter become, will be due in the main to His Highness's personal solicitude for his welfare.

SARDAR MADHO RAO SCINDIA OF GWALIOR

The Sardar belongs to the ruling family of Gwalior. The founder of the family was Chingoji, the great-grandfather of Maharajah Ranoji Rao Scindia, and the first of the family to come into prominence was the forefather of Koudaji, who was the great-grandfather of the subject of our sketch. His father, Ranoji Rao, had a brother named Mugatrao. After the death of Maharajah Daulatrao Scindia, his first widow, Rakhmabai, adopted as her son, Mugatrao, in 1827, at a Durbar, in the presence of all the State Sardars and the British Resident. He was installed on the *gadi* under the name of Maharajah Jankoji Rao.

Patloji Rao Scindia came from the Deccan with Mugatrao Scindia, also known as Maharajah Jankoji Rao. The following were the villages and lands given to him by the grant of a sanad, dated the 9th Moon of the month of Shaval Suma Arlasa Sacksil Myaten, for lands at Kanerkhed in the Taluqa of Koregaon, Zilla Satara, and by the grant of four sanads, dated the 11th Moon of the month of Rabilakher in the year Arlasa Sacksil Myaten, for four villages, *viz.*, Rui, Pimprigoli, Karanji and Bemora.

After the grant of these sanads, he left for the Deccan. Sometime after, Maharajah Jankoji Rao invited his father, Patloji Rao Scindia, to Court, but when the State Minister, Krishna Rao Mama Sahib Kadam, heard of the invitation, he took steps to prevent him from leaving the Deccan and proceeding to Gwalior. In spite of this, Patloji Rao Scindia reached Gwalior and saw Yeshwant Rao Bhaoo Ginsiwala. Salutes were fired, and the Maharajah and the Resident were informed of his arrival. The State Minister's action in trying to prevent the visit was also made known. The Maharajah was much displeased, and removed the families from Indore to the palace at Gwalior. The title of *Sardar* was conferred upon Patloji Rao Scindia, who, besides, was given a necklace, *shirpech* a *lavazma*, a palanquin, a horse, a *chauri*, a *sotebardar*, a page, an elephant, an *ambari*, an umbrella, an *abdagir*, a *bhaldar*, a *gashia sardari*, and

a drum. He was also given a personal allowance of Rs. 3,000 monthly, an allowance of Rs. 3,800 for his relatives, and a horse allowance of Rs. 1,500. The State still pays to his family all extra expenses, on occasions such as marriages and other important ceremonies. Patloji Rao Scindia died in Samvat 1892, but his mother and his two widows continued to draw the allowance. Maharajah Jankoji Rao Scindia died in January 1843. His great-grandfather, Appaji bin Mandaji Scindia's son, Kederji, had a son named Hanmant Rao, whose son, Bhagirath Rao, was adopted by Tarabai, the widow of Jankoji Rao Maharajah. He was installed on the *gadi*, and assumed the name of Jayaji Rao Maharajah.

Patloji Rao Scindia's grandmother, Daryabai, requested Maharajah Jankoji Rao to allow her to adopt a son. The Maharajah having consented, Ranoji Rao was adopted in Samvat 1911, and the Sardarship continued as before. In Samvat 1912 the Maharajah was pleased to give Ranoji Rao a gold *toda* for his turban. All persons stood when he entered the Durbar, and he was also entitled to a seat on the right of the Maharajah. He was given the full honours of the Sardarship by the Maharajah, Jayaji Rao, on January 22nd, 1874 (Samvat 1930) During the Mutiny of 1857 he was a Major in the body-guard of the late Maharajah Jayaji Rao Scindia. Tantia Topee had already gained over the whole of Scindia's army, so that the Maharajah had no confidence in the main body of his troops, but trusted only his own body-guard and was ready to despatch them against the mutineers. On the 1st of June the body-guard was attacked by the mutineers. They resisted the attack bravely, but not without loss. The Maharajah then sent his body-guard to Agra. On the return of Ranoji Rao to Gwalior, the mutineers fired on him, but he escaped unhurt. He finally arrived at Agra after various difficulties, having had to take great precaution against being recognized by the mutineers, who were trying their best to capture him alive. While on his way to Agra, he was opposed by a small gang of rebellious villagers, but though unarmed, he managed to escape. On reaching Agra he saw the Maharajah and told him of all that had happened. The Maharajah was escorted to Gwalior by an English cavalry, and when he arrived at Morar, he found Gwalior still occupied by the mutineers. They soon left, however, and the Maharajah was placed in possession of his capital by the English.

Ranoji Rao Scindia, on reaching home, found that his family had removed to the house of one of his relatives, as they were left unprotected and the mutineers harassed them during his absence. The mutineers had attacked his house and carried off all that they could lay their hands upon.

After the restoration of peace in Samvat 1917, the Government of India rewarded all who had been loyal. A Durbar was held by the late Maharajah Jayaji Rao Scindia, and Banoji Rao was granted two villages in the Province of Amjhera, which are still enjoyed by his sons. He also held a certificate for his distinguished loyalty during the Mutiny. In Samvat 1918 the English handed over the Province of Neemuch to Scindia in exchange for territories in the Deccan. Some of the Jaghirdars protested against the exchange for fear of losing their villages, but the Maharajah promised that they would be given villages in the State to compensate them for those given up in the Deccan, and the Government allowed the Deccan villages to be held on Istimirari tenure.

Since Samvat 1912 Ranoji Rao had been a Major of the body-guard. He used to be placed, occasionally, in charge of the State administration during the absence of Maharajah Jayaji Rao on tour or elsewhere. He was at one time in charge of the Military Department, and he was also a Commanding Officer as well as Adjutant-General in Scindia's Army. The following are the particulars of the Durbars held by the Government of India and attended by the Maharajah Scindia and Ranoji Rao Kaka Sahib Scindia.

The Governor-General held a Durbar at Agra in November 1859, at the end of the Mutiny, when Ranoji Rao was presented with a military uniform, a necklace, and a *shirpech*. He was present at the Durbar of 1875, held in Calcutta in honour of the visit of the Prince of Wales. In December 1876, Lord Lytton held a Durbar at Delhi and presented Ranoji Rao with the Kesar-i-Hind Silver Medal. He attended every Durbar at Calcutta with His Highness the Maharajah Scindia.

He left behind him five sons, the eldest of whom, Madho Rao Scindia, was a Captain in Gwalior 3rd Lancers and has since retired on pension. The second, a Naib Bakshi in Silehdari Irregular force, passed away in 1913. The third is attached to the Sar Suba's office at Ujjain. The fourth is in charge of the State Museum. The fifth, Ganpat Rao Scindia, who had been carefully brought up under the watchful eye of his father, was put in a High School before he attended the Sardar's School. In the latter he spent seven years, during which period he was trained in drill, and in various branches of education. He was much liked by his tutors, and he always stood first or second in his class. He took a keen interest in out-door games and gained the first prize in the Tennis Tournament got up by Mr. Taylor, the late Chief Engineer of the Gwalior State.

In the Administration Report of the Gwalior State for 1903-4, the Inspector-General of Education remarked that His Highness's first Elocution prize was won the previous year by Sardar Ganpat Rao Scindia. Then he was put in the Land Records Department, where for nearly three years he was given a training in different branches pertaining to that Department and was afterwards appointed Assistant Director, which office he held for several years. He has been Deputy Director for over a year.

Sardar Ranoji Rao Scindia died in 1909 at the good old age of seventy-eight. He was a man of a deeply religious spirit, who devoted his old age, after his retirement from public life, to religion, and visited all the sacred places in India.

He was succeeded by his eldest son, Madho Rao Scindia.

RAI BAHADUR SETH JIWANDASS OF JUBBULPORE

The family of Rai Bahadur Seth Jiwandass migrated from Jaisalmere, in Rajputana, in or about the eighteenth century and settled in Jubbulpore. At the cession of Jubbulpore to the British Crown in 1817, they were in possession of some landed property and were carrying on a banking business. In 1828 the Firm was described as the most opulent in Jubbulpore. Mention is made of the family by Major W. H. Sleeman in his *Rambles and Recollections of an Indian Officer.*

"During the Mutiny of 1857 Khusalchand Seth not only assisted under the orders of the then Government in apprehending the rebels but also proved his loyalty in the only other way he could, by not only advancing money for Government purposes, but by furnishing supplies for a column under Major Erskine in the field in the height of the rains of 1857, when none could otherwise have been obtained.

He also advanced money for the purchase of Cavalry horses when no one else would lend".

The following is an extract from W. Forbes Mitchell's *Reminiscences* of 1857 :—" He advanced large sums of money for the purchase of bullocks, elephants and camels, thus enabling the authorities to find transport for the several columns advancing for the relief of Lucknow and eventually to equip a siege train of the Naval Brigade under Captain Sir William Peel advancing for the relief of Lucknow."

Of his experience at Jubbulpore at the time of the Mutiny, the late Surgeon Major-General W. R. Rice, M. D., the then Civil Surgeon, wrote :—

" In the darkest period of the great Indian Rebellion of 1857, when our local treasuries had been plundered and the few that had been saved of any of their contents were unable to help the headquarters' Treasury at Jubbulpore then much in need of cash to fit out a sweeping Military expedition which essayed to open the country between this and Damoh and Saugor (which was in a state of complete anarchy), Seth Khusalchand with conspicuous loyalty and trust came forward and gave Major Erskine, the Commissioner for the time being, a loan of three lakhs of rupees on his simple note of hand. In those days Civil and Military officers had to accept the greater part of their pay in paper money printed in the local Jail on the authority of the Commissioner.

This Currency had to be made a " Forced one " in the Bazaars. It can be easily understood what a relief this timely loan was to the

officers above referred to. I myself was one of them, and write from personal knowledge and experience."

For his loyalty and for services rendered during the Mutiny, Seth Khusalchand received a gold badge and belt and a sanad from Government, and was granted a personal interview with Lord William Bentinck, the first Governor-General who visited Jubbulpore.

Seth Khusalchand died in 1865 and was succeeded by his son, Gokuldass. The Local Administration presented him with a turban as a mark of esteem and a token of his succession as head of the family and caste.

Gokuldass had not forgotten the traditions of his family. He was always actively loyal and an unqualified supporter of the Local Civil Government and of the British Crown. His munificent benefactions were household words in these provinces. He commenced his career by offering a large sum of money for the improvement of Hanoomantal, a tank which at that time supplied the city of Jubbulpore with water. He then built a Town Hall in the city of Jubbulpore in memory of his father. He subsequently built another Town Hall to commemorate the Jubilee of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, Empress of India. He repurchased the original Town Hall presented by him in memory of his father and converted it into the Lady Elgin Hospital, which was opened by Lord Elgin on his visit to Jubbulpore. In 1881 he advanced several lakhs to the Jubbulpore Municipality—some of the money was given gratis, and the rest advanced at low rates of interest with easy terms of repayment—thus enabling the Municipality to construct one of the finest water-works in India.

Sir C. Crosthwaite, in his speech in 1885, said :—" I find Jubbulpore much improved owing to the fine supply of water which is now carried to every part of the station and town, and I accept with pleasure your thanks for the small part which I took in carrying out the works which give that supply. With your leave, however, and on your behalf I will convey these thanks, first of all to Rai Bahadur Seth Gokuldass without whose aid this noble undertaking could not have been even begun, etc., etc."

Again, at the Durbar held at Jubbulpore on the 17th February 1887, he spoke as follows : " The liberality of Rai Bahadur Gokuldass is an ordinary matter of comment at a Jubbulpore Durbar".

Once more in 1889 when the Honourable R. J. Crosthwaite introduced the Central Provinces Municipal Bill in the Council, he referred to the liberality of Rajah Gokuldass in these terms :—

" The town of Nagpur has for some years been supplied with water from a large reservoir, and recently owing to the great liberality of Rajah Gokuldass Rai Bahadur, the Municipality of Jubbulpore has also been enabled to construct a reservoir,".

For his loyal offer of assistance during the Kalahandi rebellion of 1882, and the Russian scare of 1885, he received the thanks of both the Local Administration and the Governor-General.

He was a Life Member of the Countess of Dufferin Fund, and a Member of the Central Committee of the Imperial Institute.

During the famine he not only established a poor house in the city of Jubbulpore but spent large sums of money in distributing grain and cloth to his tenantry in his numerous estates.

He early foresaw the decay and decline of the old landed nobility of India and advanced large sums of money at low rates of interest to the Court of Wards through the Administration, to enable indebted landholders to recover themselves and save their ancestral homes from going to the hammer. As a loyal subject he was not only exempted from the Arms Act but also from personal appearance in the Civil Court. He had the true loyal Swedeshi spirit in improving Indian industries, as instanced by the Mills of Jubbulpore which bear his name, the Perfect Pottery Works and numerous factories scattered over the Provinces. He would, however, have nothing to do with Swadeshi in the sense in which it was then understood. It was largely due to his own personal example and his unswerving loyalty that Jubbulpore never witnessed any pseudo-Swadeshi movement and disloyalty.

His benefactions, donations, contributions, and remissions of tenants' debts during his life-time aggregated to over six lakhs. These are not confined to the Central Provinces alone, but embrace other parts of India.

He rose step by step from Rao Sahib to Rai Bahadur, and the title of *Raja* was conferred at last. He died in 1908.

The local Administration, in recognition of his services and liberality, built, at considerable public expense, a Dharmasala near the Railway Station to commemorate his memory. This Dharmasala is for all classes and creeds, and at the express solicitation of the numerous friends and admirers of the late Rajah a life-size statue of the Rajah is being arranged for by his son to be erected in the centre of the courtyard.

Gokuldass was succeeded by his only son, Rai Bahadur Seth Jiwandass, as head of the family. The latter is closely following the traditions of the family and does not lag behind his ancestors in his munificence. His donations and remissions of debts during these few years as head of the family have already amounted to nearly Rs. 11,60,000.

On the Coronation Day in 1911 he showed his unswerving loyalty to the British Crown by entertaining all the European children of the station including the Regimental children to a Grand Fete and Tea in his residence in the Civil Station.

SETH SHYAMDAS
RAIS AND DURBARI, BENARES
(UNITED PROVINCES)

The well-known firm of Seth Madhoban Das Dwarka Das is a long-standing one in Benares, the proprietors of which have been noted for integrity, honesty, and loyalty to the British Government. The family had migrated from Ahmedabad about two centuries ago. The present head of the firm is Seth Shyamdas, a Durbari, and a man of great intelligence and tact. Three of his predecessors also enjoyed the honour of being Durbarees. His grand uncle, Seth Dwarka Das, rendered meritorious service to the British Government by carrying out and completing the work of essment and realization of the tax on the income and profits of the ares city, for which he was highly praised by Mr. T. Gubbins, then strate of the District, and was granted a Parwana. His father, Seth das, was one of the ablest and most illustrious persons in Kasi. He a member of the Municipal Board and proved most useful to the overnment in selecting specimens of the local manufactures for the Calcutta Exhibition. He built a big *dharmasala* in the heart of the town. His uncle and immediate predecessor, Seth Balkishen Das, was famous for his charity and kind-heartedness. Mr. W. M. I. Lumsdon, the Commissioner of the Division, in his letter, dated the 13th July 1892, stated that Seth Balkishen Das bore a high character and was a man of influence and position, and that he believed him to be thoroughly loyal and a well-wisher of the British Government. He erected a choultry on the Panchkosi Road for the use of the public.

Seth Shyam Das, with his younger brother, Seth Mathwa Das, is walking in the footsteps of his worthy ancestors. He is exempted from the operations of the Arms Act with reference to certain weapons. Mr. D. C. Bailie, Member of the Board of Revenue, United Provinces, writes in one of his letters that Seth Shyam Das is an intelligent Rais, and is an active and clear-headed man, whose opinion is of value, and who always assists in public business. Mr. D. H. Radice, Magistrate and Collector, Benares,

in his letter, dated the 7th July 1908, says that Seth Shyamdas is thoroughly loyal and will always give any assistance that is required. As the officer was of opinion that Seth Shyam Das was a sensible business-like man, he commended him to the favourable notice of his successors. In 1907, owing to a misunderstanding between the Manager and the *Bias* of the famous fair of Ram Sela at Chitra Kot in Benares, Seth Shyam Das, with other Raises, was entrusted with its management by the local authorities. The fair having passed away without the least disturbance, Mr. Radice sent him a letter of thanks for the services rendered by him in connection with it.

There is also a branch of the firm at Calcutta bearing the same designation. Seth Shyam Das owns many villages and pays to the Government an annual peshcush of about 40,000 rupees. He is very popular among the Mahomedans and the Hindus, and Government officials hold him in great esteem.

SRI BANGARU MUTHU VENKATAPPA NAYANI VARU ZAMINDAR OF BANGARI PALIEM

The Zamindar of Bangaripaliem, in the Chittoor District, Madras Presidency, belongs to a very ancient house which played a prominent part in the past history of the country. The family traces its descent from the lunar race (Palaya-culapatta badras) of the ancient Hindu kings. They emigrated from Hastinapura or Delhi and settled down at Srisailam in Southern India long long ago. Unable to bear the ill-treatment of the Nawab of Kurnool, they removed themselves to Vijayanagar which was then under the sway of Hari Hara Rayalu. A member of the family, Aggi Thimmappa Nayani Varu, distinguished himself greatly in the service of the King of Vijayanagar, in the early part of the fourteenth century. He received many presents from the King for having successfully repulsed an attack on Vijayanagar by a descendant of Orugunti Prataparudra. Later on, the same Thimmappa Nayani Varu was made the Polegar of Pyaracuroo, Ethurugonda and Gudipati. For three hundred and twenty-five years, he and his successors, Aggi Thimmappa Nayani Varu, Akkappa Nayani Varu, Thavi Nayani Varu, Papa Nayani Varu *alias* Venkatappa Nayani Varu, Veerappa Nayani Varu, and Errappa Nayani Varu, enjoyed the Poliem in succession. One of the later Polegars, Venkatappa Nayani Varu, had a further grant of four villages, Kalisapakam, Poloor, Arani and Palnata Agaram, with numerous presents and honours, namely (1) Venkini Narayavunki, (2) Kalikithurai, (3) Simhathalatam, (4) Cherapencha (jewels to be worn on the turban of a king) from the King of Vijayanagar, for having routed and killed in battle, Rayalu, the Chief of the Odra country, who laid siege to Chandragiri. Once more in 1653, Annappa Nayani Varu obtained the Perakur Taluk as jaghir, for similar services. The Moghuls invaded the country about this time, and forced the Polegar to pay a tribute of 3,125 pallipatu varaha, or about Rs. 10,000 of modern money. The title of *Raja Bahadur* was conferred on one of the Polegars, Bangaru Nayani Varu, for help rendered in the early part of the eighteenth century to



THE ZAMINDAR OF BANGARIPALIEM

Nawab Sadatulla Khan, the Moghul Deputy in the Carnatic, and ancestor of the later Nawab of Arcot, against Jai Singh, the well-known Chief of Chenjee fort, whose exploits are sung in ballads even to this day all over the Tamil country. Large grants were given to Bangaru Nayani Varu in the Chittoor District, and it was this Polegar who founded Bangaripaliem, the present head-quarters of the zamindari. After Bangaru Nayani Varu, came in succession Venkatappa Nayani Varu, Virappa Nayani Varu, Chandrasekhara Nayani Varu, Venkata Virappa Nayani Varu and Chandrasekhara Nayani Varu.

The East India Company confiscated the zamin in 1804, and paid a monthly allowance to the Zamindar, Pedda Ramappa Nayani Varu, one of the sons of Chandrasekhara Nayani Varu. But it was restored to his son, Ramadasappa Nayani Varu, who continued in possession of the estate till 1866. He was much respected by the Government and the people, and commanded great influence in his time. He did a great deal to improve the zamin. His younger son by his third wife, Subbamma Garu, was Chandrasekhara Nayani Varu, who then became the Zamindar, but the family was involved in a big law-suit, as Seshamma Nayani Varu *alias* Seshachalapathi Rajulungaru, the elder son by the fourth wife, Venkatamma Garu, a name changed in the latter part of his life with the permission of the Government, claimed the property as the senior, and finally obtained a decree in his favour from the Privy Council in 1880. One of his step-brothers, Sivaramappa Dasa Nayani Varu, wanted to effect a partition of the estate, but this was refused by the government as the zamindari is an impartible one, succession being according to the law of primogeniture. On the death of Seshachalapathi Rajulungaru in 1905, his uterine brother, Sri Venkatappa Nayani Varu, the present Zamindar, came in possession of this ancient estate.

The family occupies a most important place in the social economy of the country. It is known for its great acts of charity. There is a large choultry maintained by it affording food and lodging to hundreds of pilgrims even to-day, on their way to Tirupathi (Balaji), Benares, Rameswaram, and other sacred places. A lower secondary school is maintained at Chittoor; several water-sheds are annually opened by the Zamindar in the hot season—a favourite form of charity in South India.

One of the most interesting places in the zamindari is Mogili, a village at the foot of the Palmanair Ghauts, which was once a prosperous settlement of merchants of Linga Balija sect. The chief interest about it is the temple dedicated to Siva, to which the following mysterious and mythical origin is ascribed.

Originally the surrounding country was a settlement of shepherds, and one of them, Moagilappa, found a cow from his herd missing every day. He wanted to trace her, and one day he followed her as she was running away. He saw her enter a cave across a pool of water in the summit of a mountain. Holding the tail he passed through the cave which led to a golden mantapam (a pavilion with golden pillars). Here, to his astonishment, he found the goddess, Parvathi, appear and milk the cow. Being asked by the goddess, Moagilappa explained to her that he wanted to find out the cause of the cow's systematic disappearance. The goddess declined to give out anything regarding the cow, but offered him the choice of asking for any other favour he wanted. The simple man begged for food. Immediately he had before him a sumptuous feast, of which he partook to his heart's content. The goddess then told him that he could have the treat whenever he liked, but enjoined on him that he should keep the matter a profound secret as he ran the risk of his head being broken into thousands of pieces. He was asked to close his eyes, and he immediately found himself transported to where his cattle were grazing. The shepherd then gave up eating in his house, and with the splendid repast he had every day at the shrine of Parvathi, he improved in appearance and health. His wife repeatedly questioned him about it, and he gave out the truth to her one day. Immediately his head split itself into pieces, and he died. His wife committed *sati* with him. On the northern side of the cave, at a distance of four miles from it, was a small fount containing a stone in the middle of it. The stone prevented the cows from freely drinking of it. It was removed by Moagilappa but it reappeared, again and again as it was removed. In great anger he hit it hard with an axe in his hand and found, to his astonishment, the stone bleeding. He placed it in the midst of a bush of *moghili* herbs hard by and worshipped it as Siva with great regard. After a time, some pepper merchants halted near the spring to cook their meal. As they were cooking, the god Siva appeared before them in the guise of an old Brahmin, and begged them for some pepper to apply to an axe-wound on the forehead. The merchants pretended that the bags contained only *cholam*, and when they reached their destination (Madras) and opened the bags, they found, to their surprise, the contents to be mere *cholam*. They then found out their mistake and vowed to the god Siva that if the *cholam* were again converted into pepper, they would devote half the proceeds to the building up of a temple dedicated to Siva at the place where they met the old Brahmin beggar. They found the *cholam* again transformed into pepper. They realised large profits from its sale, but merchant-wise they were unwilling to waste the money on the temple.

The bullock carrying their money, however, strayed unobserved to the fount where the temple was to be put up. After a close search they found the bullock lying down in the midst of *moghili* shrub in front of the stone hit by Mongilappa with his axe, and they then repented their folly and fulfilled the vow. They also converted the spring into a well, which turned out to be a perennial artesian stream, the waters of which now flow through the mouth of a bullock made of stone, the favourite *vahanam* (riding animal) of god Siva. This story which is current among, and believed in by, the people to this day explains the origin of the temple, which continues to be a favourite place of pilgrimage.

The present zamindar is a venerable old gentleman, who is much respected by his tenants and by every one that comes in contact with him. He has always the good of his ryots at heart, and keeps up the family traditions of charity and benevolence. In the management of his zamindari, and in all his acts of charity, he has the co-operation and help of his younger brother, Mr. B. E. Muthu Ramappa Nayani Varu, who is well up in English, and has passed the Matriculation and Special Test Examinations. The Zamaindar has four sons and three daughters; the eldest son helps the father and the uncle in the management of the estate.

The titles conferred on the ancestors of the Zamindar are——Sahib Muspuck Mehrbandostan Sreeman Maha Nayanka Charia Maha Raja Rajestri Rajah Bahadur.

SRI L. KUMARAMUTHU VENCADATHIRI NAYAKKAR AVERGAL

ZAMINDAR OF IDAIYAKOTTAI

The Zamindar of Idaiyakottai in the Palni Taluq of the Madur District claims descent from a very old family of warriors belonging tc Errakuddi Vallakavar of Raja Kambala caste (Errasainagar in Vijayanagar who had distinguished themselves under the ancient Kings of the Carnatic. When Viswanadha Naick was installed as the Ruler of the Pandyar Kingdom in the middle of the fifteenth century, a distinguished ancesto of the Zamindar, Vallala Mackaya Nayakkar, was the commandant of a large section of his army. As was the custom in those days, the Nayak king permitted his General to colonise uninhabited tracts by clearing juggles and bringing waste land under cultivation. It was in this way that the Idaiyakottai estate came into existence about 1434 A. D. Vallala Mackaya Nayakkar continued to be in charge of the estate for over a quarter of a century, and was succeeded by his son, Theppaiya Nayakkar. Under him and his successors, Errathamma Nayakkar and Muthu Venkadathiri Nayakkar, and Lakshmipathi Nayakkar, his son, grandson and great-grandson respectively, many improvements were effected in the estate. A temple was built and dedicated to Thirivengadanada Perumal at a arge cost; an anicut was put up across the Nankanji river, channels were opened, wells and tanks were sunk, large tracts of dry lands were converted into wet lands, and the estate was greatly improved in every way. It is noteworthy that the family has always been known for its piety, all the Poligars having been most god-fearing and virtuous. On the whole, during the first five generations of the family, the estate was built up and improved in many ways, and it was constituted into a well-ordered principality, paying an annual tribute of one thousand *pons* to the Carnatic Kings, which later on was reduced, as a mark of honour and reward for good service, to thirty-one *pons*.



THE ZAMINDAR OF IDAIYAKKOTTAI

Hard times, however, were in store for the palayam, when the whole of the Carnatic was rent by wars and feuds. Under Tippu and Hyder, the Mysoreans attacked these parts and annexed the tracts, and Nawab Mir Sahib was left in charge of Dindigul, in whom the direct management of the surrounding palayams was vested. The Nawab, however, proceeded to levy a nazarana of five thousand rupees which the Poligar was unable to meet. With considerable difficulty the amount was paid out in two years, and the Idaiyakottai Poligar, Muthu Vencadathiri Nayakkar, became the friend and attache of the Nawab. The Poligar was requested to assist in levying rents from the other poligars in arrears, especially the one at Virupakshi, who was attacked by Muthu Venkadathiri Nayakkar and his army, and forced to flee the country. Tippu Sultan, who was just then camping in those parts, was mightily pleased with the valour and bearing of the Idaiyakottai Poligar, became much interested in him, and recommended him to the special care and confidence of Nawab Mir Sahib. He was also given in appreciation of his services, valuable presents and marks of honour (Viruthu); and large additions were made to his estate, the tribute payable being fixed at 2,173 *pons*. After the fall of the Mysore family, the tracts came under the sway of the East India Company. They were hard and unsettled days, and not much could be got from the Palayam. Muthu Malyandi Meenatchi Nayakkar, who was then the Poligar, represented matters to the Collector, and got his tribute reduced to sixty one rupees. Some years later, when Mr. Hurdis was Collector, the estate was confiscated for arrears of revenue, with a monthly allowance for the Poligar. But later on the estate was restored to Lakshmipathi Nayakkar, the senior representative of the family, by the Collector, Mr. Farris, and the peishcush was settled at 4,973 pagodas. The Poligars experienced great difficulty in collecting rents in those hard times, and the arrears of peishcush accumulated in large sums. In 1823 again the Government confiscated the estate and retained it for over sixteen years, and in 1839 restored it to the brothers, Lakshmipathi Nayakkar and Kumara Chinnama Nayakkar. The permanent *Sanad-I-Milkiet Istimirar* was finally granted in 1871 to the then Poligar, Muthu Venkadathiri Nayakkar. Soon after, he was succeeded by his son, the late Zamindar, who managed the estate until his death in 1902.

He left behind him a minor son, Kumara Muthu Venkadathiri Nayakkar, and the estate was managed by the Court of Wards. Special attention was paid to the zamindar's education and training, both at Palni and Madura, under proper guardians and tutors. He progressed well in his studies obtaining several prizes in his classes both for efficiency and good

conduct. He came into possession of his estate in 1909. During his minority all the debts were cleared, a new *azmoish* survey was made, and several salutary reforms were introduced. Just before entering on the management of the Palayam, he, with a view to form the usual family connection, married the daughter of the Kadavoor Zamindar in the Trichinopoly District in August 1909.

The young zamindar is of an extremely religious disposition, and takes great interest in the welfare of his tenants. He has an industrial turn of mind. He has a great taste for photography. He carefully looks to the improvement of the zamin. He is well educated and realizes the responsibilities of his high position. He devotes much of his time to demonstrating to the agricultural public the advantage of adopting the improved agricultural methods. He has evinced a marked progress in the construction of an irrigation channel as a feeder to the Pudukkulam and has recently maintained a regular park of his own for agricultural demonstrations and exhibitions. He is very loyal, and he celebrated the Delhi Durbar day on a grand scale to impress upon the people the benefits of the British administration and to bring home to them the greatness of the British Empire. He ably manages the estate continuing the system of the Court of Wards, being assisted by Mr. C. Somasundaram Pillai, son of the late Mr. V. Chockalingam Pillai, retired Police Inspector, who was once his guardian. Under their management the zamin bids fair to have a prosperous future.

BHAIYA RAJ KISHORE DEO
ZAMINDAR OF NAGARUNTARI

This family is a branch of that of Sonepura of the Surajbansi dynasty. Sonepura has had fifty-six Rajahs. In the reign of the fifty-sixth Rajah, the title of *Rajah* was withdrawn in consequence of some complications during the Mutiny of 1857.

The Untari family became separated from the Sonepura or parent branch during the reign of Rajah Raghonath Singh, the forty-fifth ruler. The cause of separation was briefly as follows :—Prassanno Rai Singh, the forty-fourth Rajah of Sonepura, had two sons, the elder of whom was Utter Rai and the younger, Raghonath Singh. When Rajah Prassanno Rai died, Utter Rai was absent from home on a pilgrimage, and in consequence of this the younger brother, Raghonath Singh, was placed on the *gadi* and recognized as Rajah. Subsequently Utter Rai returned, but as it was too late then and as he could not depose his younger brother, he was granted the Deonkara estate comprising ninety-seven villages situated in Tuppah Rampore in Pergannah Belonjah (now in the Palamau District) for his maintenance and was styled *Bhaiya* (Brother).

Unrudh Rai, the third Bhaiya, under orders of the Emperor of Delhi, subjugated Tuppah Untari because of the contumacy of Rudra Sahi, its then Rajah. After subjugation the Tuppah was granted as a rent-free jagir by the Emperor to the said Bhaiya Unrudh Rai, in Fasli 1069.

Narhar, the fourth Bhaiya, was in great favour at the Court of Delhi on account of his magnificent physique and his almost superhuman strength, and he was therefore granted the title of *Deo* in Fasli 1077. Henceforth these Chiefs have borne the style of *Bhaiya Deo*.

On the 31st August 1797, the British Government confirmed to Bhaiya Bodh Singh Deo the rent-free title to Tuppah Untari, and on the 10th December 1840 the same Government, after enquiry under Regulations II of 1810 and III of 1828, confirmed to Bhaiya Bhagwan Deo the rent-free title to the Deonkara estate in Pergannah Belonjah.

There have been up-to-date fourteen Bhaiyas; their names are as follow :—1. Utter Rai, 2. Ramchandra Rai, 3. Unrudh Rai, 4. Narhar Deo, 5. Lachmi Deo, 6. Pirthi Deo, 7. Naipal Deo, 8. Pohoop Deo, 9. Bodh Singh Deo, 10. Bhawani S. Deo, 11. Tej Singh Deo, 12. Bhagwan Deo, 13. Jai Singh Deo, and 14. Dirgaj Deo. Information is not forthcoming to show when each ascended the *gadi*, or how long each sat on it. The fifth and the tenth Bhaiyas, Lachmi Deo and Bhawani Singh Deo, died without male issue; the former was succeeded by Pirthi Deo, his younger brother, and the latter by Tej Singh Deo, son of Bhaiya Gajraj Deo, brother of Bhaiya Pohoop Deo, the eighth Bhaiya.

The above is the only instance in which the son did not succeed the father *i.e.*, of direct descent.

The Bhaiya Deos of Untari were invested with police functions throughout Untari Tuppah. Mention is first made of the bestowal of such functions in the sanad granted by the Delhi Court to Bhaiya Narhar Deo in Fasli 1077, and the Bhaiya Deos continued to exercise such functions until the 1st January 1863 on the introduction of Act V of 1861, when the British Government commuted such services into an annual money payment or Police Cess. This commutation took place during the time of Bhaiya Bhagwan Deo, and at first the demand in money was Rs. 1,200 though subsequently in 1870 it was raised to Rs. 1,840-14-0, which sum represents three-fourths of thecost of maintaining the Police force in the territory.

Bhaiya Bhagwan Deo was presented with a gun and a letter setting forth the services rendered by him during the Mutiny of 1857. In 1871 he received the thanks of the Government, through the Commissioner of the Division, for promoting education amongst his tenants. He received a letter of praise from Government for assistance rendered and for generosity displayed during the famine of 1874. In 1877 he received a certificate of honour in the name of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen Empress, for his loyalty, and liberality, and was exempted from the operation of the Arms Act.

In 1897 Bhaiya Dirgaj Deo received the thanks of Government for his liberality in giving a donation of Rupees eight thousand towards the erection of a dispensary at Daltonganj, the head-quarters of the Palamau District. He received a certificate of honour in the name of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen Empress of India for undertaking the Chairmanship of the Untari Gratuitous Relief circle and managing it efficiently during the famine operations in 1897; for undertaking operations for the relief of the distressed tenants in his estate at a cost of Rs. 6,150 to himself; for assisting Government with a loan of 600

maunds of rice for expenditure on Government famine operations; for assisting in the administration of charitable relief and for subscribing Rs. 1,500 towards the charitable relief Fund.

He erected a substantial school house at Untari at a cost Rs. 1,200. He gave a monthly subscription of Rs. 20 towards the upkeep of an English Middle School. He subscribed annually Rs. 300 for the maintenance of the Government Zilla School at Daltonganj, Rs. 60 to the Lady Dufferin Fund, and Rs. 50 to the Charitable Dispensary Fund. He won the personal title of *Rai Bahadur* on the 31st December 1898, and a gun and a sword "in Khilat".

Rai Bhaiya Dirgaj Deo Bahadur died on the 27th February 1911, and was succeeded by his son, Bhaiya Raj Kishore Deo, on the 11th May 1911. Bhaiya Raj Kishore Deo has paid Rs. 1,000 towards the improvement of the dispensary at Daltonganj, as promised by his father during the last visit of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to this District. He has started a charitable dispensary at Nagaruntari at an estimated cost of Rs. 5,000, with a recurring charge of Rs. 1,650, and this has been approved by the Deputy Commissioner of Palamau. He has been elected as a member of the District Board and also of the Agricultural Association of Palamau. He has been elected to sit as juror and assessor beside the Honourable Judge of Chotanagpur in sessions cases of the District. He was one of those invited by the Government to join the levee of Their Most Gracious Majesties the King Emperor and Queen Empress, in Calcutta, during their last visit. He was presented with a Delhi Durbar Medal in consideration of his services in connection with the local celebration of the Coronation Day.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Behar and Orissa was pleased to declare in his notification dated the 3rd May 1912, as follows:—

(*a*) That Bhaiya Raj Kishore Deo, Proprietor of the Nagaruntari estate in the District of Palamau, be included in the category of the great Zamindars of Bengal.

(*b*) That he is exempted from the operation of the Arms Act, in respect of six rifles and two breach loading guns.

BABU VENKAT RAMANNA GARU
HONORARY MAGISTRATE AND ZAMINDAR
OF KATNI-MURWARA

In 1793, during the Seringapatam war, a British brigade under the order of the East India Company left for Seringapatam *via* Masulipatam. The General Officer commanding the Brigade was in urgent need of a reliable contractor for transport. On instituting enquiries he found that one Narla Ravanayya of the Kammawar community was in possession of a large number of carts and pack bullocks and did business in carting. The officer gave him the contract for the transport of the whole column which he readily accepted. He followed the troops and served the Brigade till the close of the war with Tippu. When the disturbances were over, the Brigade joined the garrison at Hyderabad. There Ravanayya remained for some years and then returned to his village, Kantur, in the Krishna District, Madras Presidency. Thereafter, his brother, Tatayya, became the sole contractor and carried on business with much credit. About 1882 he was sent to the Nagpur Division in connection with the Peshwas, when also he conducted himself to the entire satisfaction of the officers concerned. Putting his son, Madho Rao, in charge of the contract, he returned to his native place and died there after some time. In addition to that of Nagpur, Madho Rao was ordered to work in connection with five different garrisons, namely, those of Indore, Mhow, Jubbalpore, and Nagode, in each of which cantonments he managed his business with the aid of his cousins. During the great Mutiny, Madho Rao and his cousins traversed the countries lying between the Narbada and the Ganges under the moveable column of General White-Clarke in the Central Provinces as well as in Central India. Owing to constant travel, his health completely broke down, and he died young in 1860, leaving a son, Tatayya, only ten years old. The following testimonials speak of the esteem in which the officers concerned held Madho Rao:—

It is with pleasure I certify to the stisfactory manner in which Madho Rao Naidu carried on all contracts undertaken by him during the time I had charge of the Saugor Division.

Madho Rao is a highly respectable person and I have much gratification in recommending him to the consideration of others.

Kampti,
23rd September 1856.

(Signed). W. GARDNER,
Asst. Commissary General.

Certified that Naidu Madho Rao during the Mutiny of 1857 and in the subsequent Campaign of 1858 and 1859 supplied this division with bullocks both for pack and draught, and I have much pleasure in testifying to the satisfaction he gave to myself and the other officers under whom he served as Contractor during that period.

Commissioner's Office,
28th May 1859.

(Signed) CHARLES OGILVIE,
Asst. Commissary General.

Madha Rao, the present Cattle contractor, has fulfilled his contract during my incumbency of four and a half years very much to my satisfaction.

During the Mutiny he rendered very valuable aid to the State by supplying both draught and pack bullocks when they were not procurable from other sources, and on the Relief of Saugor by Sir Hugh Rose, Madho Rao supplied the Bombay Column with draught bullocks for the heavy and light Batteries throughout their operation in Central India. I have much pleasure in giving him this certificate.

Saugor Commissioner's Office,
18th May 1861.

(Signed) CHARLES W. OGILVIE,
Dy. Asst. Commissary General.

During the minority of Tatayya, the business was carried on in his name by his guardian uncles, Pedda Venkanna and Chinna Venkanna. In 1878 a military committee was formed to consider whether or not draught and pack bullocks were fit for snowy and hilly tracts like the frontiers, and it was resolved that mules and horses should be substituted for pack and draught bullocks respectively. Thus the long-standing contract with the military department carried on by this family for about a century came to an end in that year. Thereupon the members of this family, who became permanent residents of the Central Provinces, chose different professions congenial to themselves. Some of them took to banking business at Saugor, whilst others worked as contractors at Jubbalpore and purchased immoveable property and villages at Saugor and Jubbalpore. Tatayya was made Honorary Magistrate at Saugor, to which onerous duty he did ample justice. He died in 1907. He was very popular as a Zamindar, Rais, and Darbari. His sons who succeeded him are still there.

Pedda Venkanna, who settled down at Jubbalpore, died in 1875, when his son, Venkataramanna, was but a minor. The contract business in the Commissariat and in the Engineering departments was carried on by his nephew, Gopalakrishnama. Colonel Hughes Hallett wrote of him in the following strain:—

I have known P. Gopal Kristnama Naidu, resident of Cantonment Jubbalpore, for many years during the time I was at Jubbalpore as Superintendent of the Jail and School of Industry and Cantonment Magistrate.

I have always found him a most obliging upright man ready to use his influence which is considerable in assisting Government Officials in all matters connected with the welfare of the Cantonment, and I am sure my successor will find him the same. He keeps himself apart from all cliques. As a contractor I have found him thoroughly conscientious, modest, and retiring.

He has my best wishes for his welfare.

(Signed) H. HUGHES HALLETT,

Colonel.

Babu Venkatramanna served in various departments and eventually set up business as a contractor in the P.W.D. and the Forest Department at Jubbalpore, Mandla, and Katni-Murwara as well as in the Native States of Panna and Rewa. It will not be out of place to quote the opinions of high officers, Civil and Military, expressed regarding Babu Venkatramanna:—

Nagpur, 6th December 1888.

Babu N. Venkatramanna of Jubbalpore supplied me with all the carts needed for Timber works in the Mandala for many years previous to my taking over charge of the Mandala Forest Division.

He never failed in completing any work undertaken for me. I have a high opinion of his honesty.

(Signed) C. W. LOSACK,

Deputy Conservator of Forests.

Babu Venkat Ramanna has worked for me as a Carting Contractor both in the Mandala District and Rewah State.

He is a good business man, works well, up-to-date, and is very trustworthy.

He has received considerable sums in advance both from my predecessor and myself, and there has never been any difficulty or delay in settling his accounts.

(Signed). J. MACKIE,
Dy. Conservator of Forests.

30th November 1888.

This certificate is granted to Babu Venkat Ramanna, Malgozar of Kutata, in recognition of his having, in the famine of 1899-1900, carried out the work mentioned below for the relief of the poor of his village and the construction of Embankments at acost of Rs. 1,000.

(Signed). S. ROBERTSON,
Deputy Commissioner,
Jubbalpore.

18th March 1901

This certificate is presented to Babu Venkat Ramanna of Murwara by order of the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces in recognition of the good and willing services he rendered in the Census Operations of 1901 and as a mark of approbation.

(Signed) R. N. RUSSELL,
Supdt. of Census Operations,
Central Provinces.

Nagapur, 1901

This certificate is granted to Mr. Venkat Ramanna of Murwara in recognition of his having in the famine of 1907-08 carried out the work mentioned below for the relief of the poor of his village and the construction of a tank at a cost of about Rs. 1,500.

(Signed). A. BLENVER HASSETT,
Deputy Commissioner,
Jubbalpore.

In March 1889, Babu Venkatramanna became Manager of the firm known as Olpherts Metallic Paint Works and Dyers' Lime Works, and served in that capacity for about sixteen years. He founded a Lime Factory under the style and designation of "Venkat Lime Works" at Katni Murwara in 1898, which he has since managed creditably as Principal. He has been an Honorary Magistrate of Murwara, Jubbalpore, since 1898. He owns twelve villages in the Murwara Tahsil, in some of which he has made permanent improvement in irrigation,

In connection with the Delhi Durbars of 1903 and 1911, Babu Venkatramanna received the following certificates of honour for the good management of his estate:—

By command of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General-in-Council this certificate is presented in the name of His Most Gracious Majesty King Edward VII, Emperor of India, to Mr. Venkatramanna of Murwara, Jubbulpore District, in recognition of his good management of his villages.

(Signed) J. P. HEWETT,
Chief Commissioner,
Central Provinces.

Nagpur, 1st January 1903.

By command of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General-in-Council, this Certificate is presented in the name of His Most Gracious Majesty King George V, Emperor of India, on the occasion of His Majesty's Coronation Durbar at Delhi to Venkat Ramanna, in recognition of the assistance rendered by him in the Famine by opening works in his village and of his good work as Honorary Magistrate.

(Sd). R. H. CRADDOCK,
Chief Commissioner,
Central Provinces.

Nagpur, 12th December 1911.

Babu Venkatramanna Garu, a recognised Zamindar, Rais, and Darbari, bears a good name both as a business man and as a landholder; and in all circles, official as well as public, he is spoken of highly for his straightforward and gentleman-like qualities.

SRI RAJAH KAMADANA VENKATA VARDARAJA SOBHANADRI ROW BAHADUR GARU ZAMINDAR OF BORRAMPALAM AND VEGAVARAM ESTATES

Sri Rajah Kamadana Venkata Vardaraja Sobhanadri Rao Bahadur, Zamindar Garu, the noble scion of an illustrious family, is the chief representative of the Kamadana zamindars who ruled over the Charmahal estates, comprising, as the name denotes, four paraganas, Vinnakta, Gudivada, Kalidindi and Batterzalli, *i.e.*, the whole of the present rich taluks of Gudivada and Kaikaloor. This is a compact block of very fertile land about 400 square miles in extent and contains nearly 300 villages. The land was so fertile that it attracted the attention of the East India Company from the moment they wanted to extend their sway.

It is claimed for this family that one of their ancestors acquired or preserved the vast estates of Nuzvid for the Appa Row family. Their first ancestor was one Guruvayya whose children at one time got sanads for the Nuzvid estate as well. His forefathers were rulers of some estates near Warangal in the Nizam's territory and distinguished themselves in several engagements with Hindu and Muhammadan rulers. Being brave, chivalrous, and charitable, they were very much loved by the people over whom they ruled, and all these noble qualities have been inherited by the present ruler.

Later on as usual with such rulers, love of conquest and love of money induced them to come down from the hilly fortresses, and the rich fertile valley of the Krishna which had till then been ruled by the last of the Reddy kings was easily conquered. The princes then fortified the existing fort at Kanukollu and made it their headquarters. Since in those days the rule of the princes was not secure without the sanction of the Nizam of Hyderabad, the Kamadana family spent large sums of money and obtained sanads and firmans and also the titles of *Zubdalul Aqran* and *Rajah Bahadur*. They then removed their headquarters to Betavole and afterwards to Guraza, being the centre of the estate, where they remain even now.

This brings the story down to 1738 from which date the history is clear. In that year Rajah Ayyanna became the Zamindar. He was valiant as he was chivalrous and charitable, and ruled the land for twenty years and earned the names of "Goddalla Ayyana" (Ayyanna of the Axe) and "Apara Parasurama." He was always engaged in fighting battles and was an expert in the capture of forts. He thus helped the Nizam, the French, and the English whenever his aid was required. He died the death of a true soldier which he so much desired. He fell in the battle of Vallur in 1759. His rule was remarkable in that he obtained sanads from the Nizam as well as from the British and the French, settling the zamindari on a military tenure. He was succeeded by his brother, Ankappa, who ruled till 1764. Being more ambitious, he was actuated by a desire for acquiring dominions rather than for distinguishing himself in battle fields. He thus ruled over eighteen Paraganas including the famous Zamin of Nuzvid, Sanivarapet and the Haveli lands. After his death his son, Rayanna, and his brother, Peddapapayya, ruled the estates. Pedda Papayya was a patron of learning. He gave away 50 Agraharams and 50,000 acres of inams to poets, pandits, temples and mosques.

Now began the misfortunes of the Charmahal Raj. Famines fell over the land and devastated it; and the Zamindars of Guraza were weak and not able to manage the estates. In 1770 Mr. Wynch, seeing how badly the zamindari was managed, began to correspond with the Zamindar, and in the next year made a settlement fixing three years' peishcush, the Zamindar of Mogultur becoming security therefor. In 1774 another settlement was made; but by this time the Zamindar became indebted to the surety to the extent of 84,000 pagodas. The incessant famines and the weakness of the Zamindars might have tended to cripple their credit. But the chief reason was the attitude of the Government who fixed an enormous rental on the estates. In spite of this settlement and heedless of the remonstrances of the Zamindars, the estates were handed over to the Mogultur Rajah for six years. At this crisis the Zamindar died, leaving a minor son, Narasimha Rao. The Zamindar of Nuzvid laid claim to the estate as being subject to himself and not an independent one like his own. Although the Government of Madras rejected his claim, the Chief at Masulipatam gave a ten years' lease of the estate to his own Dubash and ordered that 8,000 pagodas per annum be paid to the creditors of Appa Row of Nuzvid. If it is remembered that the Chief at Masulipatam himself was the principal creditor of the Rajah of Nuzvid, the significance of the transaction will be apparent.

From 1771 to 1778 the lease of the Dubash, Kandrigula Venkatarayalu, continued in force. The minor Zamindar was under the guardianship of

Appa Row of Nuzvid. The Kamadana family could not but be discontened. Such a brave and noble family to be kept out of their estates was more than what they could bear. There were, therefore, some pitched battles between the Kamadana Zamindars and the Nuzvid Zamindar, and the renter of the Charmahal estates was supported by a force of the Government.

In 1788 the estates were taken under the direct management of the Chief-in-Council at Masulipatam. But the Court of Directors, with their usual fairness and love of justice, decided in 1791 that the estates should be handed over to the Kamadana family and rejected the claim of Appa Row, But the Council at Masulipatam did not wish to give up possession of the estates and prevailed upon the Madras Government to recognise Chinnapapayya and Narasimha Row as Zamindars and allow them 10,000 Pagodas per annum. But the Madras Government later on saw through this and restored the estates in 1872 to Narasimha Row and Sobhanadri Row, son of Chinnapapayya. Sometime after, Narasimha Row died, and the latter became the sole Zamindar. When the estates were handed over to Sobhanadri Row, it was shown by the accounts that the estates owed money to the Government and he was asked to pay up the arrears. Although the ill-fated Rajah consented, he was unable to do so as it was too much for the estates and as his Dewan's rule was so harsh that the villagers gave up their lands and fled away causing the arrears to increase. In 1801, the Collector, Mr. Reade, confined both the Dewan and the Zamindar and assumed the direct charge of the estate.

Two years hence, in 1803, the special commission came to the rescue of the Zamindar. In their magnanimity they remitted all arrears, fixed the rental permanently and handed over the estates to the Zamindar. Again, fortune was against him. He entrusted the estates to two persons who failed and dragged him to litigation. His debts and arrears amounted to 80,000 Pagodas, and in 1813 half the zamindari, *i.e.*, the estates of Kalidindi and Battaizalli were put to sale and purchased by other zamindars for the paltry sum of 10,000 Pagodas. The two other mittahs also were managed by the Collector for seven years, and Sobhanadri Row died in 1820. The estate was then taken over and managed by the Government till 1832.

In 1832 the Government showed their magnanimity again by recognising Papayya Row as Zamindar and remitting all arrears and restoring the remaining Paraganas to him. But the fates were still against the Kamadana family. The rental fixed was too heavy. To add to this the terrible famine of 1833 embarrassed him. The Zamindar had no time to put the estates in order; and the Government did not wish to wait longer. The other Zamindars were equally embarrassed, but while remissions were

made to them, the good Papayya Row who had run into debt for paying the rental and whose arrears for five years had amounted only to the small sum of Rs. 41,000 had to suffer. For this trifling amount the zamindari was attached in 1836 and taken under Government management which continued till 1843. It is very disappointing to find that the Government, after managing the estates for seven years, showed a net deficit of Rs. 4,71,000. The Zamindar strove his best and was indebted to the Company to the extent of Rs. 41,000. But a septennial administration by the Government of the rich deltaic taluks of Gudivada and Vinakota increased the debt tenfold. They then began to harass the Zamindar for the payment of their dues. The other creditors followed suit. The Zamindar requested that he might be allowed to resume his estates, and offered to pay off the dues in instalments. The Government were inexorable, and suits were filed against the Zamindar. Famine was raging in the land. The Zamindar sent petition after petition to the Court of Directors but in vain. At last relief seemed near. The Honourable Court of Directors sent orders that the estates should be handed over to the Zamindar with reduced peishcush and wished to know what the reasonable rate was. To get the arrears they ordered that a portion might be sold, and the local Government, acting under such orders, while promising to give effect to them by handing over the estates, ordered them to be sold, *without allowing others to bid. They thus knocked down the* estates for themselves for three lakhs.

Many other estates suffered a like fate, but they were more fortunate: their estates were returned to the holders and their arrears remitted. Such a favour was refused to the present family, for the taluq was the richest.

Still the Zamindar did not keep quiet. He remonstrated, pointing to the previous promises of the Government, and requested to be treated at least like his brother Zamindars. He argued that the Government, by their management, increased the arrears, but he was refused a hearing. At last in lieu of the estates with a revenue of sixteen lakhs, a compassionate *pension of Rs. 1,000 per month* was granted to the family, *and the zamindari* ceased to exist after a life of 150 years.

The good Pappayya Row died in 1876 leaving two sons, namely, Venkatrama Gopala Jagannadha Sobhanadri Row and Venkata Narasimha Ramachandra Row. The family pension was then granted in the name of Venkatrama Gopala Jagannadha Sobhanadhri Row. This Sobhanadhri Row died in 1884, leaving no male issue. His undivided brother, Venkata Narasimha Ramachandra Row, claimed the allowance. The Board recommended the continuance of the allowance in his name. He passed his days at Guraza getting a monthly allowance of Rs. 600. He had a

small zamin acquired in recent years, which fetched about Rs. 20,000, per annum, at Borrampalam and Vegavaram in the Kovur Taluq, Krishna District. The Zamindar had settled his estate and was very popular with his ryots. He was very kind towards his subordinates and was therefore loved by his vast establishment at Guraza, Borrampalam, and Masulipatam. He took great delight in keeping in his service persons connected with his family for generations. Always true to his word, he was highly respected by Government officials, and it must be said to his credit that he never indulged in wanton litigation.

He died on the 17th March 1912 leaving three sons, namely, Rajah Kamadana Venkatavaradaraja Sobhanadri Row Bahadur, Venkata Lakshma Row Bahadur, and Venkata Rama Row Bahadur, of whom the second is dumb. It is regrettable to note that, after the death of Venkata Narasimha Ramachandra Row, his eldest son, Rajah Venkata Varadaraja Sobhanadri Row was granted only a half of his family pension, that is, Rs. 300 per mensem. After the death of his father he, as the eldest son, took the management of his estate into his hand. He, as well as his brother, Venkata Rama Row Bahadur, received liberal education in English and in the oriental languages. They are peaceful, charitable, and loyal.

Mr. Gudipati Venkata Ratnam, Muktiyar and Agent to the Zamindar at Masulipatam, comes of a family which has been closely allied to that of the latter for several generations. By virtue of the faithful discharge of his duty, Mr. Venkata Ratnam was in the good graces of the former Zamindar, and the present Zamindar also likes him very much.

Within the few months that he has held the reins of the estate administration in his hands, the young Rajah Sobhanadri Row has introduced several reforms in different directions for its improvement, and his shrewdness and rare administrative capacity bid fair to double the income of the estate in the near future. Young as he is, he has an old head upon his young shoulders, and a good heart for the welfare of his employes.

May God bless him with long life and prosperity!

SRI RAJAH MALRAZU VENKATA NARASIMHA RAO BAHADUR GARU OF NARASARAOPET

The Malrazu family, whose members are of the Velama caste, is one of the most prominent in the Guntur District. They formerly secured imperial grants from Delhi constituting them Deshmukhs of the Kondavidu Circar. It is an indisputable fact that they wielded great influence at the beginning of the eighteenth century, and that they held the Zamindari of Bellam Konda from time immemorial.

The first noteworthy person of the family was Vallarayanam Garu, son of Thirumal Rao Garu.. He had five sons, and all of them held the zamindari in succession till 1700 A.D. His brother was the Zamindar of Kollara in the Nizam's Dominions. Pedda Suranna Garu, the grandson of Vallarayanam Garu, by his eldest son, Ganganna Garu, rendered faithful service during the Mahomedan rule and secured a firman for the zamindari of Venukonda Taluq, from the Nizam of Hyderabad. He died four years after this new acquisition. His son and successor, Peddaramarayanam Garu, ruled over the Bellamkonda and Vinukonda estates for thirty-four years. As he had no issue, he adopted one Suranna Garu, who ruled only for a year and passed away.

Neeladrirayanam Garu, the great-grandson of Vellarayanam Garu, held the zamindari for seven years. He too was childless and adopted one Venkata Narasimha Rao Garu.

Venkata Narasimha Rao Garu fixed his residence at Atlur, the name of which he changed to Narasaraopet. He built a fort there and laid out several gardens. On his death his territory was divided between two Zamindars of the same name, known as Pedda Venkata Gunda Row Garu and Chinna Venkata Gunda Row Garu, of whom one occupied Venukonda and the other Bellamkonda. In 1803 one of these relinquished his estate in favour of the other, and the whole zamindari was united again under Rajah Malrazu Venkata Gunda Row Garu. He purchased the Rachur portion of the Repalli Zamindari, the Sayidapuram estate (Rapur Taluk, Nellore

District), and the Kadali Zamindari in the Godavari District. He was well known as a patron of literature and the fine arts, and was very tolerant in his religious views. It was during his time that the Pindaris made incursions into these parts and sacked almost all the villages in the Guntur District. Of all the zamindars in this District, he was the only one who proved loyal to the British and checked the progress of the Pindaris. He provided shelter in the fort of Narasaraopet to Mr. Oakes, the Collector of the District as well as to the other British officials. He sent a thousand armed men under his own officers, who attacked the Pindaris by surprise near Kothalur, in Venukonda Taluk and drove them out of his estate. He also helped the Government to secure the person of K. Gurappa who was a very troublesome highway robber of those parts. For this piece of loyal service he was promised Garikepad and three other villages. Advanced age prevented him from managing his large estate, and he requested the Government to take over three taluks of Bellamkonda, Vinukonda, and Rachur on condition of the yearly payment to him by the authorities of a fifth share of the revenues. But he passed away before receiving any orders from them, with injunctions to his wife, Lakshmamma Garu, to adopt a boy. Pending the orders of the Government, the estate was taken under their management. Soon afterwards, Mallarayadu Garu, the son-in-law of his cousin, set forth his claim to the zamindari, but after seven years Lakshmamma Garu was declared legal heir to the estate. The Collector of the District then intimated to her that, owing to the falling short of the revenues of the taluqs, the Government were not in a position to grant the fifth share of the revenue for the past period, and the whole estate was made over to her with the total mesne profits amounting to Rs. 70,000. She adopted one of her kinsmen, Venkatanarasimha Rao Garu, on the 14th November 1832, who died shortly afterwards leaving an infant son, Venkata Kondal Rao Garu.

During the famine of 1832-3, she spent a large sum of money in relieving the distressed, and on account of this and of the crippled resources due to the protracted litigation stated above, she could not pay the Government dues. The estate was therefore attached and taken under their management. In 1843 it was intimated to Lakshmamma Garu that under orders from the Court of Directors her rights in the estate were to be temperarily made over to the Government with a view to enable the latter to improve the condition of the zamindari. Lakshmamma Garu at once complied with the desires of the authorities taking care to style herself in the agreement as the guardian of the minor Zamindar, Venkata Kondal Rao Garu.

In 1846 the Collector intimated to Lakshmamma Garu under orders,

from the Government that the taluqs were to be put to sale for the sums due upon them, which amounted to twenty-two lakhs, of which Rs. 60,000 were incurred while under her management during the famine period, and the remainder while under that of the Government. She was not responsible for the remaining arrears of Rs. 21,40,000, as she had no hand in the management of the zamindari. It would appear that she had a moral claim upon the sympathy and magnanimity of the Government as the deficit was caused when the country was devastated by a severe famine and that she should have been allowed sometime under the circumstances to pay off the arrears.

Strangely enough, the whole estate was struck down on behalf of the Government for the paltry sum of five thousand rupees, so small that it could be realized by the sale of any one of the 420 villages comprising the whole estate. When she complained of these anomalous proceedings, she was informed that the sale was only a nominal one and that the Government would restore the estate after its resources were fully developed. After her death, on the 3rd September 1855, her grandson, Venkata Kondal Rao Garu, claimed the restoration of the estate or the continuance of the allowance of Rs. 1,000 per mensem given to Lakshmamma Garu, during her life, but it was withheld on the plea that his claims to the estate were not valid according to the conclusion arrived at by the Commissioner of the Northern Circars and the Collector of Guntur. In May 1868, he submitted a memorial to the Secretary of State for India in Council praying for the same. The prayer was not granted, but, however, a pension of Rs. 800 per mensem was allowed to him. His adopted son, Venkata Narasimha Rao Bahadur Garu, enjoys it now. He has a son and heir, Venkata Ramakrishna Kondal Rao Bahadur Garu, aged five years.



THE ZAMINDAR OF MARUNGAPURI,
HIS WIFE, AND DAUGHTER

SRI KRISHNA VIJAYA POOCHAYA NAYAKKAR AVERGAL ZAMINDAR OF MARUNGAPURI, (TRICHINOPOLY DISTRICT)

Among the comparatively few members of the aristocracy who enjoy a reputation far beyond the limits of the dependency in which their lot is cast, the Zamindar of Marungapuri, Sri Krishna Vijaya Poochaya Nayakkar Avergal, occupies a prominent place.

In the early period, Marungapuri continued in the possession of the ancestors of the present Zamindar under the title of Palayapat, and, after the advent of the East India Company, it was recognized as an ancient zamindari.

The estate of Marungapuri originally comprised 322 villages, but now there are only 103 of them, with a total area of 177 square miles or 1,01,738 acres, of which 4,477 acres are occupied area and forest 19,681 acres. The population, according to the last census, is 39,388. There are 30 major irrigation tanks and 350 minor ones. The distance from north to south of the zamindari is twenty miles, and from east to west twenty-four miles. There are three rivers, the Vellar, the Carar, and the Palar, of which only the last has a perennial supply of water all through the year. The ryots depend on rain-fed tanks for cultivation, and the agricultural products of the estate are ragi, cholam, and rice. The annual revenue is nearly a lakh of rupees, and the peshcush payable to Government is Rs. 20,590—3—10 including road cess. Fourteen big Devastanams and several minor ones have been under the management of the present zamindar and his ancestors from time immemorial,

In order to trace the origin of this ancient family we have to rely on interesting accounts neither apocryphal nor mythological, for we have before us a mass of information to convince us that the Zamindari of Marungapuri, Palayapat as it was originally known, is really an ancient one. We understand that the progenitor of this family, Thirumalai Poochaya Nayakkar, migrated from Akola near Rajputana, owing to family feuds and dissensions. It would appear that on a certain night

when he was fast asleep the god Narasimha appeared unto him in his dream and ordered him to proceed to Southern India, where he (god) would incarnate on the western bank of the Cauvery, on the north of Madura and, to be more precise, towards the north of the river Swedanathi and the east of Velamalai, in which direction one of his votaries had been ordered to metamorphose himself as a range of hills called Karimalai. Thereupon Thirumalai Poochaya Nayakkar, with his followers, encountering incredible difficulties, and surmounting innumerable dangers, marched across rivers, traversed forests, climbed hills, halted in many places, finally resumed his march to the south, and settled down at Nammankuruchi, where wealth, dominion, and fame, awaited him unawares. As stated in the dream, he found a range of hills, dark in colour, whereat he offered his heartiest prayers to his tutelary deity. At this stage, a man who was totally blind repaired to Thirupathi, presented himself before the god Srinivasa and prayed for restoring his vision to him. The god who was moved by his entreaties gave him the sight of one eye, but for the other he directed him to go to Thirumalai Poochaya Nayakkar. He went all the way to Thuvarankuruchi and represented to him what had happened at Thirupathi. On hearing it, Poochaya Nayakkar was in a fix as he did not know what to do in the matter. The only course left open to him under such peculiar circumstances was to proceed immediately to Thirupathi and offer sincere prayers to the god Srinivasa to unriddle the enigma of what the blind man had told him. The god appeared unto him in his dream and said that he had established himself at Karimalai; that he (Poochaya Nayakkar) should go there accompanied by his family priest, Thathachariar; that he would find three green leaves called *Thiruthuzhai*; that if he should squeeze the juice of some of those leaves into the sockets of the blind man's eyes, the sight of the other eye would be restored to him. This came to pass, when the joy of Poochaya Nayakkar and of the man who once again saw the light, knew no bounds. Thirumalai Poochaya Nayakkar built a temple at the foot of the hills and dedicated it to Varadarajaswami. He soon got into the good graces of the Hindu Kings, whose power was at its height, and became commander of a squadron besides executing the duty of collecting the revenue from their vassals and lords, with powers to punish those whose tribute fell into arrears.

We have before us a copper plate inscription in Tamil, dated Salivahanasagaptham 117, which corresponds to 195 A. D., from which we gather the following particulars:—The emperors Thirububan, Brijapala and Athanda, Rajahs Chola and Pandya, with some Polygars, went on a pilgrimage to Rameswaram; and, on their way, encamped in a certain place. It was their desire that some one should undertake the most dangerous and arduous task of crossing the Pamban Canal, go by boat to the

other side of the sea, and bring some tangible proof of a ship there. Thirumalai Poochaya Nayakkar, Polygar of Nammankuruchi, risked his life and completed the mission in three days. The Emperors and the Rajahs, in high appreciation of the success achieved by Thirumalai Poochaya Nayakkar, conferred on him grand titles, presented him with many insignia of royalty, and made him senior Polygar. They also put him in charge of Trichinopoly, Srirangam, Thiruvanaikkaval, and Tanjore mahanams. Besides this he was also empowered to collect *guan* wages from each town at the rate of two panams per house, and from each village and hamlet ten kalams and five kalams of grain respectively.

It must be stated to the credit of Thirumalai Poochaya Nayakkar and his successors that they had on several occasions helped the British when they went to war against the Mahomedan rulers and also the Princes of Panchalankuruchi, by laying waste the thick forests on the way from Koilpati to Palar, and also by opening out substantial roads for the passing and encamping of the English army safely and conveniently. The Nayakkars further posted their own men in those camps and arranged for the supply of provisions.

Thirumalai Poochaya Nayakkar was succeeded by Obala Poochaya Nayakkar, who owned 210 villages includingNammankuruchi,Marungapuri, etc., and had his permanent residence in Nammankuruchi. He built many temples and made endowments for their proper management.

When Chera, Chola, Pandyans were ruling over Kerala, Tanjore, Madura and other kingdoms, the Minister to the King of Vijayanagar, who had come on pilgrimage to Rameswaram with a large army, was attacked by the self-constituted chieftains of the southern parts. With a view to prevent such disturbances in future, he appointed Thirumala Naick as the King of Madura and two other Naicks for Trichinopoly and Tanjore, besides creating many Palayapats. The Rajah of Tanjore, Vijaya Chockalinga Naick, once visited Thirumala Naick, the King of Madura, and on his return journey, near Thuvarankuruchi, it became dusk, when the Kambala Nayakkars, the residents there, requested the Rajah to spend the night with them and promised to see to his comforts. As it was the wont of the people living in those parts to waylay such passengers, the offer of the Nayakkars roused the suspicion of the Rajah, and so he set at naught their request and marched on to Trichinopoly. The following day, he sent a small army to Thuvarankuruchi and ordered the capture of the Kambala Nayakkars. Having got scent of it, they fled from there, but one man, Veera Poochaya Nayakkar, the Polygar, owing to some difficulty, could not do so. He was forthwith captured and presented before the Rajah, who ordered his immediate confinement. Shortly after this, a tiger made

great havoc of men and cattle, which was brought to the notice of the Rajah. The Rajah proclaimed that he who killed it would be the recipient of a substantial reward. Veera Poochaya Nayakkar came forward and begged of the Rajah to send for his armoury from Trichinopoly. s was done, and he was released. The tiger appeared again as before, when Veera Poochaya Nayakkar presented himself before it, spell-bound it and played with the animal as he would with a lamb. He then removed the chords, infuriated it, and showed his powers by killing it outright. This wondrous feat of valour touched a chord in the heart of the Rajah, who granted Veera Poochaya Nayakkar, Marungapuri and the adjoining villages. He then won the name of Puli Kuthi (tiger killer) Veera Poochaya Nayakkar.

When the Mahomedans came to power and held sway over the Southern Presidency, they recognised the grant of the Tanjore king to Pulikuthi Veera Chinna Poochaya Nayakkar. During the reign of Nawab Walajah, the Zamindari of Marungapuri was divided into two parts, one portion retained the original name and was managed by the eldest brother, and the other, Varapoor, was left in the possession of the two younger brothers. Subsequently, the Varapoor estate was split into two parts, and occupied by two brothers, namely, Chinnaloca Vellaya Bommaya Nayakkar, and Chinnaloca Kumara Bommaya Nayakkar.

One of the members of the Marungapuri family repaired to Pudukota on account of some internecine disputes and joined the Chiefs there, when a large number of villages merged into that State.

Thimma Poochaya Nayakkar, the next Polygar, made large grants of land to the Meenakshiamman temple at Madura. He was succeeded by Veera Chinna Poochaya Nayakkar who was a great patron of learning and to whom Tamil scholars living in those parts were under great obligation. The next in succession was Muthu Veera Poochaya Nayakkar, who laid waste several forests, converted them into habitable places, built many houses, and brought down people to occupy them. He was succeeded by Periya Thirumalai Poochaya Nayakkar, who removed his headquarters to Marungapuri, built some palaces and other substantial buildings for his residence.

Many copper plates are still extant in which are inscribed the endowments made by the Polygars of Marungapuri for temples and other charitable institutions, and in some of them the donors are styled "Rajahs", by which designation they had been addressed by the Carnatic as well as by the Mahomedan rulers and which continued till the time of the Permanent Settlement by the British Government.

After the death of Periya Thirumalai Poochaya Nayakkar, Sreemath Ranga Krishna Muthu Veera Poochaya Nayakkar succeeded in 1868. He built palaces and other decent buildings in Marungapuri and was charitably disposed. He laid gardens, sank wells, and improved the estate in every way he could. He died in December 1887.

Sri Krishna Vijaya Poochaya Nayakkar, son of the former Zamindar, was born in 1884. During his minority, from 1894 to 1898, he remained in Trichinopoly for education under the orders of the Court of Wards, and for the remaining period he was in the Newington institution at Madras, where his assiduity and carefulness in the acquirements of knowledge were wholly praiseworthy. His literary talent is certainly of a high order and he has a very retentive memory. He travelled far and wide in India, with his brother minors, under the fostering care of their tutors, Mr. C. Morrison, and Mr. C. H. Payne. He retains a lively recollection of all that he had seen during his travels in India and Ceylon, and his description of them even to this day is accurate and graphic.

He married his maternal uncle's daughter, Sri Subhadrammani, in January 1903, and the result of this union were two issues, who died as babies. His wife was a very highly cultured and refined lady. She was first trained by an American lady, Mrs. Gibson, under whom the progress she had made was remarkable. Her next companion was Miss Renwick who remained as such till her death. The cruel hand of death snatched away Subhadrammani in 1908, when she was barely twenty years old, after a brief attack of typhoid fever.

Sri Krishna Vijaya Poochaya Nayakkar attained his majority on the 8th November 1905, when the Court of Wards handed over the estate to him. Since the time he has been in charge of it, he has managed it with much credit to himself and benefit to his tenants, who lay before him all their grievances and get them redressed. They repose much confidence in him.

He married the present Rani, Sri Azhagu Vellayammani, his niece (sister's daughter), in May 1908, and she has been blessed with a daughter. She has a competent companion, a native Christian lady, under whom she learns Tamil, English, music, needlework, etc. She is endowed with both tenderness of heart and beauty of person. It is gratifying to observe that she is very refined, noble-hearted, charitably disposed, and generous to a fault.

The Zamindar is a great rider and keen sportsman. He has for his personal use excellent studs and is passionately fond of them. Every now and then he goes out hunting, and bags deer, boar, etc. Every year, the next day after the Sivarathri festival, he starts on a hunting excursion

accompanied by a large number of his tenants, and shoots what animals he comes across and returns late in the evening with his booty with all oriental grandeur.

He has given away a building for the use of the Local Fund Primary School in Marungapuri, and the fees of most of the boys, who are in indigent circumstances, are paid by him. Some deserving and poor students in Trichinopoly are indebted to him for the generous and prompt manner in which he defrays their expenditure.

The Zamindar is assisted in the management of his estate by experienced and clever hands. He has a capable Manager in the person of Mr. M. Ramakrishna Chettiar, once in the service of the Court of Wards, and since lent to the Zamindar. The temple and other charitable institutions are very efficiently managed by the Zamindar's brother-in-law, Mr. C. Dananjaya Nayakkar, of respectable behaviour and kind nature. The forest department is in the able hands of Mr. T. C. Rajanna Naidu.

Sri Krishna Vijaya Poochaya Nayakkar Avergal is an accomplished and amiable Zamindar of modern spirit, and is of a mild, benevolent, and conciliatory temper, with promise of further greatness in every way.

ZUBDATUL AQRAN
K. V. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO GARU
ZAMINDAR OF DHARMAVARAM
BA-A-FIAT BASHAUD

This gentleman, born in 1870, comes of a respectable Telaga family of Merakaveedhi, Rajahmundry, in the Godavari District, Madras Presidency. He is the grandson, by his daughter, of the late Kandula Appayya Garu, Subadar Major and Sirdar Bahadur of the XIth Madras Native Infantry, who had won in 1855 a gold medal bearing the inscription, "Order of British India." His maternal uncle, Kandula Bhadraswami Garu, was a Subadar Major, and his mother's maternal uncle, Bayapuneedi Venkanna Garu, was also a Subadar, who rendered meritorious services to the British Raj. Bayapuneedi Jogayya Garu, the father of Venkanna Garu, a non-commissioned officer, was awarded a medal in 1799 at the siege of Seringapatam. Mr. Ramachandra Rao had amongst his relations other officers who served in the army and who were rewarded with medals and swords. It is very gratifying to observe that he belongs to a community that served faithfully and loyally in the Military Department, which contributed towards the establishment of the British sovereignty in the land.

He was adopted by his sister's husband, Sri Kanchumarti Narasayya Garu, Zamindar of Dharmavaram, now in the Krishna District. His adoptive father having died when he was quite young, his estate was managed, during his minority, by his uncle, the late Vogeti Ramakrishnayya Garu, a wealthy landlord, and for a long time a Municipal Councillor and an Honorary Magistrate at Rajahmundry. He assumed charge of his estate about 1890 and has improved it since by sinking wells and by aiding in other ways calculated to add to the fertility of the soil. He was an elected Councillor of Rajahmundry for two terms and a nominated member of the Rajahmundry Taluk Board for one term. During the Pushkaram of 1896, as a Municipal Councillor, he co-operated with Mr. Elphinstone, then Sub-Collector at Rajahmundry, in making the festival a success.

Having acquired sufficient knowledge of the mechanism and working of rice factories, he first constructed Sri Ramananda Rice Mill at Rajah-

mundry, which is his own. With a view to effect the industrial development, he built, without looking for profit, Sri Satyanarayana Rice Mill and Sri Venugopala Rice Mill at Rajahmundry, and Seeta Ramachandra Rice Mill at Dwarapudi, all in the Godavari, District, to encourage other Companies. In the District of Krishna, the Parthasarathy Rice Mills at Penukonda are his own, and the Andra Lakshmi Industrial Rice Factory at Cowtavaram was also of his independent construction. At the opening ceremony of the latter, Mr. E. Scott, the then Collector, presented him with a gold medal on behalf of the company for his disinterested services.

During the last Godavari Pushkaram festival, Mr. Ashe, the District Collector, in consideration of his services on the previous occasion, selected him as a member to help Mr. H.H. Burkett, Divisional Officer, in making arrangements for the suitable reception of the pilgrims. By distributing the supply of good drinking water in the camp by a system of pipes, and by otherwise looking after the comforts of thousands of pilgrims, he elicited the approbation of the Sub-Collector, who wrote to the Government of Madras about him in the following terms:—"The gentleman whose personality has dominated the whole festival is undoubtedly M.R.Ry. K. Ramachandra Rao. He it was who carried out the water works in the camp, who sold rice at a rate that must have involved considerable loss, who maintained money changes at his own expense throughout the town, and who, in short, took a leading part in every project which concerned the welfare of the pilgrims and of the public generally. He has well merited the thanks that are universally showered upon him." The Government of Madras, in their order No. 1837, dated 7th November 1908, reviewed his work thus:—"The Government also note with pleasure the testimony borne by the Collector and Sub-Collector to the good services rendered by M.R.Ry. K. Ramachandra Rao."

He is now a member of the District Board, Godavari. He was one of the Joint Secretaries of the reception committee to welcome H.E. Sir Arthur Lawley, Governor, when he visited Rajahmundry. He was also the Joint Secretary of the last coronation celebration committee formed at Rajahmundry. He is a trustee of the Rajahmundry Town Hall and also of the Korukonda Devastanam in the Godavari District, nominated by Dewan Bahadur M. O. Parthasarathy Iyengar, then District and Sessions Judge, Godavari. He resides in Rajahmundry. He is a kind and popular gentleman.

SRI KAMULU AMMALL AVERGAL
ZAMINDARINI OF BODINAYAKANUR

The ancient Zamindari of Bodinayakanur is in the Madura District of the Madras Presidency. It is also called *Thenkasi*, because it is said that a devotee had brought a Viswanatha lingam (idol) all the way from Kasi (Benares) and built a temple dedicated to it. As there are five rivers in Bodinayakanur, the Zamindar is called *Pancha-nadi-yarasan*, and the Zamindarini, *Pancha-nadi-yarasi*. The Zamindars of Bodinayakanur come of the *Seelavar* (superior) Kambalathar community. They claim descent from the daughter of Kalaikkottu Maharishi, a saint who resided at Dhandakaranyam. Before they emigrated to the southern parts, they were the rulers of Gooty in the Bellary District. Subsequently also, in point of eminence, they held their own, and were called *Seelavar* (superiors) in contradistinction to the other Kambalathars who rose high in the social scale by sheer force of arms.

The last Kambalathu Rajah of Gooty, on being defeated by the Mahomedan ruler of that part of the country, proceeded to Bodinayakanur which was under the sway of the King of Poonayar (Travancore), and settled there. Pursuant to an announcement made by the King of Poonayar, Jackoo Nayakkar, the ex-Rajah of Gooty, maimed one of the most dangerous of wild boars which had baffled the aim of many a huntsman, and appeared before the king with the animal alive. The king, on hearing the antecedents of the hero, took him in procession to Travancore with all the paraphernalia of royalty, and made him the ruler of the lands surrounding the eastern portion of the hills, with promise of presenting to him and his successors in perpetuity a pair of gold bangles, a silk cloth, and an elephant on the occasion of the installation ceremony.

Jackoo Nayakkar, the newly-appointed Rajah of the Bodinayakanur principality, ruled over it most peacefully for thirty-seven years. After some generations there came in the line Seela Bodinayakkar who won immense wealth and royal gifts, with the title of *Thirumalai* from the King of

Madura for having captured Mulla Khan, a great Mahomedan warrior and raider, who had evaded the efforts of many other chiefs to arrest him. His grandson, Thirumalai Bangaru Muthu Nayakkar, was appointed warden of the Thirumanjana fortress by Viswanatha Naick, King of Madura, the first of the seventy-two Palayapats just then established by him. The jurisdiction of the Nayakkar extended as far as the temple of Subramanyaswami at Periyakulam. He built a *mantabappadi* to the south of the temple, and started the Brahmmotsavam festival and also the car festival which take place in May of every year. He raised a grove known as *Singara thope* and also a garden called *Nandavanam*. He built a temple dedicated to Povlanandar and instituted a car festival. His grandson, Raju Nayakkar, went to the rescue of the King of Poonayar when he was attacked by the Rajah of Coorg and brought about a treaty between them to the effect that each party should rule over his own territory, and that they should be on amicable terms. The Chief of North Coorg who had spent a month at Bodinayakanur as the guest of Raju Nayakkar resigned his territories extending from Coorg to Uttamapalayam in favour of the latter. A blind Vellala woman, a staunch votary of the goddess Meenakshi Amman at Madura, recovered the sight of one eye after repeated supplications and prayers, but that of the other was restored to her by Raju Nayakkar on the woman begging of him the favour as enjoined on her in a dream by the goddess who counted him as one of her fervent adherents. He was, therefore, known as " Kankodutha Raju Nayakkar."

His son and successor, Sankarappa Nayakkar, won from the Madura King the honour of using a *Poochukkira Kodaimel Jalli*—a privilege accorded only to the Sethupathi of Ramnad. As he had no issue his widows, Akkammall and Thoppammall, succeeded him. On their death, Seela Jackanna Nayakkar, brother of Sankarappa Nayakkar, became Chief. A tribute of 1,000 *panams* was levied on him by Meera Sahib who was the Subahdar of Dindigul under the Carnatic Nawab. When Mr. Millet was the Collector of Madura under the East India Company, the tribute was raised to 2,500 *panams*. During the time of his younger son who later succeeded to the estate, the permanent settlement came into force, when the peshcush was fixed at a little over Rs. 7,235. The next Zamindar successfully ruled over the estate, amassed immense wealth, and built a fortress on the hill called Thani to prevent Tippu's invasion. His son and successor, Bangaru Thirumalai Bodi Nayakkar, built an anicut across the Kottagudi river at a cost of four lakhs of rupees. With the water thus preserved, about 4,000 acres of wet land have been brought under cultivation. He spent two lakhs of rupees on the construction of a palace, erected a temple dedicated to Subramaniya Swami, and started a car

festival. He exhibited some remarkable feats to Mr. Rouse Peter, then Collector of Madura, while engaged in an exciting hunting excursion, and, in appreciation of them, won from him a gold medal. Mr. Blackburn, the successor of Mr. Rouse Peter, as Collector, certified in laudatory terms to the successful management of the estate by the Nayakkar and also to the fact that no litigation in it, either civil or criminal, was settled by a court of law during the Zamindar's time. He died in 1862 leaving a minor son, Sri Thirumalai Bodiya Kamarajaya Pandya Nayakkar.

During his minority the estate was under the management of the Court of Wards. After he assumed charge of it, he built a chattram at Devadanapatti and a bungalow at Madura, and a travellers' bungalow at Periyakulam. The tank called Kamaraja Bhupala Samudra Kunmai owes its existence to him. He was the first to start cinchona plantation at Devikulam and at the Fern Hill Valley estate. He was known as a great hunter and sportsman. He died on the 15th December 1888, when he was succeeded by his widow, Sri Kamulu Ammall, as he had no male child.

This lady comes of the highly respected Gandamanayakanur Zamindari family. She married Sri Thirumalai Bodiya Kamarajaya Pandya Nayakkar in 1871, and they had an only daughter, who was given away in marriage to the late Zamindar of Saptur. Since she assumed charge of the estate, all movements of public utility in Southern India and elsewhere have found in her a willing and ready subscriber. The Government of India placed on record their high appreciation of her public benefactions by presenting her with a certificate of honour on the occasion of the coronation of His Imperial Majesty the late King Edward VII.

Prominent among her charities are the hospital built at her cost at Bodinayakanur, the temples dedicated to Vigneswara and Sennarayaperumal, and a chattram. She laid the foundation-stone of the Victoria Memorial Lower Secondary School and the Reading Room, and contributed liberally towards them. The site on which these institutions are located is also a gift of hers. The assignment of a fresh plot of ground for the construction of a suitable building for the Victoria Memorial Secondary School, as the present one is found insufficient, may be of use for a High School if the Secondary School were converted into such an institution. She has caused the erection of a five-lantern post, called the Empress Mary Light, in front of her palace, in memory of the Coronation Durbar held at Delhi in December 1911.

The Coronation of Their Imperial Majesties was fittingly celebrated by the reading of the proclamation, the feeding of Brahmins and the poor of all classes, the distribution of cloths to the poor, and of sweets and fruits to all school children, the opening of "Empress Mary Light" erected as a permanent memorial of the Coronation, by illuminations and performances of pujas and the offering of prayers for Their Majesties' long life in all Devastanams, by taking in procession on an elephant the photo of Their Majesties, and by the distribution of *pansupari.*

The Zamindarini is a noble, popular, and kind lady.

SRI RAJAH INUGANTI KASTURAMMA BAHADUR GARU ZAMINDARINI OF KIRLAMPUDI, (GODAVARI DT.,) AND OF ANNADEVARAPETTA AND PRAKKILANKA ESTATES (KRISHNA DT.)

The Zamindari of Kirlampudi in the Godavari District, owned and administered by Sri Rajah Kasturamma Bahadur, Zamindarini Garu, a pious and accomplished lady, well-known for her deeds of charity and generous disposition, once played an important part in the history of the Circars. The estates of Annadevarapetta and Prakkilanka in the adjoining district of Krishna also form part of the zamindari. Kirlampudi appears to have once formed a portion of the larger estate of Peddapur belonging to the celebrated Vatchavaya family, and at one time comprising nearly one half of the Rajahmundry Circar and extending from Tottapalli in the north to Nagaram Island in the south. During the troublous times in the Deccan, it passed hands often, at one time forming a portion of the well-known Pittapur estate. It finally came into the possession of Inuganti family, of which there are now three sections, the Zamindarini of Kirlampudi, the subject of this sketch, belonging to one of them.

The two estates in the Krishna District, mentioned above, once formed part of the Kakatiya dynasty. By a sanad, dated 24-10-1809, they were granted by Sri Rajah Reddi Narasimha Devu Garu, the Zamindar of Polavaram, to Sri Rajah Rao Niladri Rayanim Bahadur Garu. The latter sold the estates to his brothers-in-law, Sri Rajah Inuganti Papayya Bahadur Garu and Sri Rajah Inuganti Narasayya Bahadur Garu. The first of these died childless, and Sri Rajah Chinna Rayanim Bahadur Garu, a son of the second, was the Zamindar till his death, when his son, Sri Rajah Venkata Narasimha Rayanim Bahadur Garu, took charge of the estate. He was known for his chartiable deeds. He put up a big choultry at Annavaram, sixteen miles from Kirlampudi. He granted building sites freely to his ryots and founded a big village, Inugantivaripetta, named after his family. His wife, Sri Rajah Venkayamma,

was equally well-known for her piety and charity, and a large garden of mango trees near Kirlampudi still commemorates her name. This Zamindar died in 1891 and was succeeded by his son, Sri Rajah Rajagopala Venkatarama Chinna Rao Bahadur Garu, who inherited in full measure the family virtues of piety and charity. When some villages were swept away once by the floods of the Godavari, he came forward to relieve the suffering people and freely gave them inam lands to found new villages. He put up a magnificent palace, known as Indramahal, surrounded by a beautiful garden for himself to reside in. His lamented death in November 1906 prematurely cut off his highly useful life. Unfortunately he left no issue and the estates have passed into the hands of his widow, the present Zamindarini, who comes from the well-known family of the Zamindars of Kalahasti. The administration of the estate reflects the greatest credit on her managing powers, and she most usefully employs her great resources for the benefit of her ryots. She is a lady of rare accomplishments and tastes. She has studied Telugu literature extensively and has a marvellous store of knowledge of the puranic lore of the country. Highly religious she finds her greatest comfort in doing deeds of charity. She is a staunch Vaishnavite. When His Holiness Sri Vanamamalai Swami camped at Dharmavaram, she had the Chathurmasa Sankalpotchavam celebrated on a lavish scale. She has shown her loyalty by fittingly celebrating the last Delhi Durbar Day. No expense was spared, and everything was done on the joyous occasion to bring home to the people the vast benefits of British rule and to infuse into them a spirit of warm and loyal attachment to the person of the King-Emperor. Under her motherly care, the zamindari is prospering very well.

At the village called Dharmavaram, two miles off from Kirlampudi, there is a Devastanam containing the sacred shrine of Sri Rajagopalaswami belonging to the estate and well managed by the officials of the Zamindarini Garu.

In the work of administration she is most loyally assisted by her Manager, Mr. Panganamala Venkata Rao Garu, an able officer of long and good service.

THE HONOURABLE DIWAN BAHADUR V. RAMA BHADRA NAICK GARU ZAMINDAR OF VADAGARAI AND DODDAPPANAYAKKANUR

The Honourable Diwan Bahadur V. Rama Bhadra Naick Garu is one of the most prominent noblemen of South India. As a representative of the zamindari interests of the Southern Group, he has, since 1910, been in the reformed Legislative Council of Madras. Of winning and affable manners and ever of a cheerful disposition, the Honourable gentleman is a very popular and influential non-official member in the Council. He is looked upon as a model Zamindar in Southern India, and his economic and efficient management of his estate is considered a good object lesson to the other Zamindars. In the Legislative Council his views are characterised by wisdom and broad-mindedness, and it is no exaggeration to say that the Honourable Mr. Rama Bhadra Naick is an excellent example of the aristocracy of Southern India. He represents the ancient house of Vadagarai, and is the lineal descendant of the famous Rama Bhadra Naick.

To trace the ancestry of the founder of this well-known ancient family we have to go back to the events that had occurred three centuries ago, that is, to the period when the power of the once famous kingdom of Vijianagar was at its height. Rama Bhadra Naick I is said to have been a follower as well as a close relation of the well-known Kottiya Nagama Naick, the Revenue Collector and Commander of the Vijianagar army in the South. He was next in rank only to Nagama, for he was appointed to remit money from the Pandya and Chola kingdoms which had been indebted to the King of Vijianagar and also to provide the things needed for the office of Kottiyam. Nagama Naick, who was childless, went on a pilgrimage to Benares, when he appointed Rama Bhadra Naick and the steward Kesavappa Naick to the offices of Kottiyam and Karkoon respectively. On returning from his pilgrimage, Nagama Naick found that both of them had rendered faithful service in their respective posts. This won his esteem and regard, and ever afterwards he tried to further their prospects. In the meanwhile,

Nagama Naick was blessed with a child, who was named Viswanatha Naick. During this time, Virasekhara Chola, King of Tanjore, led an expedition against Chandrasekhara Pandya, King of Madura, and captured his dominions, on account of which, he went to the King of Vijianagar and sought refuge under him. Thereupon, the King directed his Commander, Nagama Naick, to help Chandarsekhara Pandya in getting back his lost dominions. Accordingly, Nagama Naick, with an army, defeated the Chola king, expelled him and reinstated Chandrasekhara, with the advice and immediate help of his Lieutenant, Rama Bhadra Naick. Nagama Naick then demanded from Chandrasekhara the arrears of tribute due to the Vijianagar Samasthanam, and left Rama Bhadra Naick as his deputy at Madura, to collect the amount. Chandrasekhara pleaded inability to meet the demand as he was powerless to subdue his cousins, who lived at Thenkasi and Gangai Kondan, and who were a source of great annoyance and trouble to him. He requested Nagama Naick to bring them to subjection, to take the reins of the administration into his hands, and to grant him an allowance. Agreeably to the wishes of Chandrasekhara, Nagama Naick took charge of the Pandya dominions, crushed the disturbing elements, and restored peace. While matters stood thus, Chandrasekhara repaired to Vijianagar and made a complaint against Nagama Naick. The latter got scent of this treacherous act, and sent Rama Bhadra Naick to see that no misrepresentations were made to his sovereign lord. The King of Vijianagar, believing the reports made by Chandrasekhara to be true, became incensed against Nagama Naick, for his having taken the management of the Kingdom of Pandya without any formal sanction from his sovereign, and issued an order for the immediate arrest of Nagama Naick, and to mete out a condign punishment to him. Those surrounding the King remained silent without executing the mandate, when Viswanatha Naick, the son of Nagama Naick, induced by Rama Bhadra Naick, offered his services to bring his father as a captive and produce him before the King. This roused the suspicion of the King, lest Viswanath should join his father and establish a rival kingdom. Viswanath solemnly pledged his word and promised the King that he would be true to the salt. Thereupon, he was allowed to proceed against his father. At this stage, Rama Bhadra Naick again played the part of a diplomatist by advising Nagama Naick to surrender. Nagama was obstinate for a time, but eventually gave in, when he was taken captive and produced before the King, who appreciated the conduct of Viswanath, and made him Viceroy of all the Pandya Kingdoms. On perusing the deed of abdication made by Chandrasekhara, which he had written by his free will and consent, the King granted a reprieve to Nagama Naick. The diplomatic skill of Rama Bhadra Naick

and the prominent part played by him in every crisis did not go in vain. Viswanatha Naick, in recognition of his faithful service, made him Fouzdar (Military Governor and Collector of Revenue) of Madura. Just then, the Chola King took possession of Kumbum and Gudalur which have since become very fertile parts irrigated by the river Periyar. Rama Bhadra Naick and Viswanatha Naick proceeded against the aggressor and took his fort by storm, when Rama Bhadra Naick pressed forward gallantly in spite of severe wounds which he had received on his cheek and on his forehead, and hoisted Nagama's flag on the ramparts of the Kumbum Fort. Highly pleased with the valour and heroism displayed by Rama Bhadra Naick, Viswanatha Naick conferred on him the Palaiyam of Vadagarai in the Era of Salivahana 1356, corresponding to 1484 A. D., and desired him to reside in that well-chosen spot which was dedicated to god Subramanya. It was, and is, still a lovely place surrounded on all sides by a picturesque scenery and hallowed by religious sanctity. It lies to the north of the Varahanadhi and is bounded on the east by the Kamakshiamman temple, on the north by Kumbakarai, in the Varaha hill slopes, where is situated the temple of Malleswara founded by the sage Agasthya. Later on, Viswanatha Naick, with his famous Minister, Ariyanayka Mudaliyar, created seventy-two Palayapats—the most important political event of his time, built seventy-two bastions all round his fortress, and assigned a bastion to each of the Polygars. According to this scheme Rama Bhadra Naick was put in charge of one of the bastions to the right of *Thirumanjanavasal* of the temple, which post of honour he held for twenty years. Shortly after this, Rama Bhadra Naick died. The King deeply mourned the loss of such a rare and faithful servant and distinguished relative who had worked so zealously for his own as well as his father's interests, invited Kumara Naick and Machi Naick, the brother and the infant son of the deceased respectively, to his court, and directed the former to instal the latter in the place of his father, and to take special care of him. Viswanatha Naick, the King, died, and was succeeded by his son, Krishnappa Naick. Machi Naick, in the meanwhile, cleared the forests, excavated tanks, and improved the estate in several other ways at a great cost. His rule lasted seventy-five years. He was succeeded by his paternal uncle's son, Rangappa Naick, who reigned fifty years. He was in his turn succeeded by his son, Machi Naick II. The Kingdom of Madura was then under the sway of Thirumala Naick, the greatest of the Naick Kings, who invited Machi Naick to spend some time with him. On a certain occasion, the King happened to be at the Mariamman Theppakulam in the company of other Fouzdars and Polygars. Finding the Theppakulam which was 300 yards square to be very spacious and wishing to test the strength of those present, he proposed that each

one of them should try and shoot from the western end so that his arrow might reach the eastern end of the tank. None but Machi Naick succeeded in the feat. The King therefore presented him with a village known as Pulimankombai. He returned to Vadagarai and spent a short time there. Directed by the King to join his Minister, Dalavai Ramappaiyar, he marched in 1638 with his forces against Sadeika Devar II, the rebellious Sethupathi of Ramnad, and eventually captured and brought him to Madura, and kept him in prison there. It is on account of this that Mr. J. H Nelson of the Madras Civil Service, in his Madura District Manual, observes:—

The Chief of Vadagarai * * * all these make no obeisance of any kind to the ruler of Ramnad.

The King highly complimented Machi Naick for his services, and sent him home with honours and valuable presents. Machi Naick II reigned fifty-five years. He was succeeded by his paternal uncle, Naranappa Naick, when Chockanadha Naick was the King of Madura. Between him and the Tanjore King there arose some family disputes. In this connection, Naranappa Naick was despatched by the King to join the Fouzdar Venkatakrishnama Naick, and march against Tanjore in 1674. The result was that the King of Tanjore, Vijiaraghava Naick, was defeated in battle and brought to Madura in chains. Naranappa Naick ruled for thirty-five years. His successor was his infant son, Kumara Rama Bhadra Naick, whose mother, Bangaramma, was regent for ten years. When he came of age, the King of Madura was Vijiaranga Chockanadha Naick. Kumara Rama Bahadra Naick is still remembered at Vadagarai by a street called after his name, and at Thenkarai by a mantapam constructed by him to the north-east of the Balasubramaniaswami temple. The King of Madura sent his Minister, Subek Manchal Naranappa Naick, to Dindigul on the important mission of thwarting the Mysoreans who attacked the place in 1741. Naranappa Naick convened a conference of the Polygars of that Province, and Kumara Rama Bhadra Naick was one of those that responded to the call, and attended the Durbar. As he was a distinguished personage, and a relation of the Naick King of Madura, Manchal Naranappa Naick offered him an equal seat and discoursed with him, but the Polygar of Gandamanayakkanur prostrated himself before the Minister, and though motioned to rise, he did not do so as he had not noticed it. Thereupon, Kumara Rama Bhadra Naick desired Gandama to rise. The latter took it as a deliberate offence as he had not prostrated himself at the feet of Kumara Rama Bhadra Naick. This supposed humiliation rankled in the mind of Gandama, who gave incessant trouble to the Vadagarai Polygar. Evidently Kumara Rama Bahadra Naick was a contemporary of the King, Vijiaranga Chockanadha,

and tried hard to frustrate the Mysorean attempt against Dindigul. Queen Meenakshi, the last of the Naick rulers, died in 1737 A. D., and her kingdom became subject to the Mahommedan intrigues and the Mahratta invasions. In the midst of these disturbances, the Mysoreans, under the ambitious Nanjaraj, the Commander-in-Chief, tried to wrest Dindigul from the Mahommedan Governor who had then a precarious hold on it. As a close relation of the old Naick family, of which there were yet living the degenerate Bangaru Thirumala and his son—the latter of whom had been adopted by Queen Meenakshi, Kumara Rama Bhadra greatly helped the Naick Minister, as stated above, in summoning the Polygar Chiefs to a council of war. Gandama Naick, one of them, who was already indignant at the superior airs assumed by Kumara Rama Bhadra, invaded his territory, cut off his head, and took the village of Kodivalarpatti, up to which probably the Vadagarai territory extended. This event is yet remembered in and around Periyakulam, and some of the streets in which Gandama's forces halted even now go under the popular designation of Dandupalaiyam (military cantonment). Thus the reign of Kumara Rama Bhadra Naick which lasted for twenty-one years, came to an end. His mantle fell on Kondama Naick. The province of Dindigul, which was conquered by Colonel Lang, was restored to Tippu, in 1784, under the treaty of Mangalore. Tippu appointed Sayyid Sahib as the Viceroy of Dindigul, and the latter ill-treated Kondama Naick. The neighbouring Polygars took advantage of this, and gave them constant trouble. As the country was thrown into great confusion on account of the unbridled raids of the Mysorean army, Kondama Naick repaired to the hill fortress called Kulukkaiyadi (granary shaped) which is still in existence on the Vellaigavi Hills, on the slopes of the Pambar Forest. As the neighbouring Polygars were unfriendly to him, Kondama Naick applied to the Polygar of Saptur for help, whose estate was then in the Tinnevelly District. The latter, though of Kambalathar caste, readily complied with the request, drove the Mysoreans and the hostile Polygars, and reinstated the Vadagarai Polygar. Since then a strong feeling of brotherhood has been established between the two families, and it has become a rule with the Vadagarai family to send a special invitation to the Zamindar of Saptur on marriage occasions. In commemoration of this bond of union, the latter observes the custom of sending a sword and a horse by way of presents to the Zamindar of Vadagarai during the installation ceremonies. Kondama ruled for thirty-five years, and his son, Nagama Naick for half a century. Next came his son, Venkataswami Naick otherwise known as Rama Bhadra Naick, and it was during his reign that Mr. T. B. Hurdis settled the estate for a permanent *basis* in 1802.

Mr. Wynch, in his report, dated 24th November 1795, on the Dindigul

Province, said that the Polygar of Vadagarai was a man of caste which was an unusual thing in that District. This simply emphasises the status as well as the respectability of the family which was closely allied to that of the Naick Kings.

Kondama Naick II, the next Zamindar, was in charge of the estate for four years, from 1806 to 1810. He was succeeded by his son, Meenayaswami Rama Bhadra Naick, who ruled from 1810 to 1824. He presented to the Periyakulam Varadarajaswami temple a big brass *thiruvachi* on which figures of himself and his mother are engraved. He was succeeded by his brother, Rama Bhadra Naick III. In 1856 the valuable forests and a major portion of the estate were seized by the Government of Madras for the arrears of pesheush amounting to Rs. 22,000. Rama Bhadra Naick ruled from 1824 to 1864 with much tact and wisdom. He was a great friend of Sir Henry Levinge, Collector of Madura, and first of the European settlers at Kodaikanal. The latter's regard for the Zamindar was so great that he kept up correspondence with him even after his retirement, from the estate of his brother, Baron Levinge, Knockdrin Castle, Westmeath, Ireland. The Zamindar also enjoyed the special friendship of Mr. Rouse Peter, the Collector, who presented him with a valuable shawl, on the 26th December 1826, in appreciation of his skill in elephant hunting, and the gift is still preserved in the family. He was succeeded by his son, Venkataswami Naick, in 1864. His services during the great famine of 1876-77 were much appreciated by the Government of Madras. He was a handsome man with a commanding stature. When a Governor of Madras visited Kodaikanal, he was so struck with the noble demeanour and majestic appearance of the Zamindar that he was pleased to grant him the first interview. He enjoyed the privilege of attending the reception at Madura accorded to His late Majesty King Edward VII, who, as Prince of Wales, visited that historic city in 1875. His son, the Honourable Diwan Bahadur V. Rama Bhadra Naick, is the subject of this account.

He was born at Vadagarai on the 23rd December 1873. During his minority the estate was managed by the Court of Wards. When he was ten years of age, he was sent to Madura for his education. Though he lost his father in his boyhood, he was fortunate in being entrusted by Mr. Crole, then Collector, to the guardianship of the late Mr. Siva Subba Iyer, of a respectable family, who spared no pains in moulding the character of his ward. He matriculated in 8191 with Sanskrit as his second language, and completed the First in Arts course in 1893. His scholastic career was so bright that the late Principal, Mr. S. Venkobachariar, of the Madura College, characterised him as a *model* student, and as of opinion that he was an example to his brother Zamindars. He

could not continue his college studies as the Court of Wards, constituted as it then was, could not manage the estate after he had attained his majority in 1894. He married the next year, and the elder of his two sons was born on the 21st December 1897. He has devoted his life to public service. He is a great patron of learning and education. Himself a good Sanskrit scholar, he encourages the study of Sanskrit and many a Sanskrit work, as Kuvalayananda Karika by Mr P. R. Subramanya Sarma, was dedicated to him and brought out under his patronage. A translation of the Vedanta Sutra by the same gentleman was similarly published. He has patronised many other useful publications in English and in the Vernaculars.

In the management of his estate, he takes the keenest interest, and is an enthusiast in the matter of introducing improved methods of agriculture and in planting trees. One of the first acts on his assuming charge of the zamindari was the establishment of a model agricultural farm. In the Madras Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition of 1904, the exhibits from the farm were very much appreciated and the Inspector in charge was given a silver medal. To the Provincial Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition held in Madura in 1906, and to that held in the same town and in Tinnevelly in the following year, he lent his active support and received a silver medal for the excellence of his exhibits.

His speeches as Chairman of the Reception Committee of the Group Conference held at Madura in October 1913, and as President of the Coimbatore Agricultural College Union in July 1912, and the introduction he has written to the book, entitled "A Guide to South Indian Agriculture," by Mr. G. Kamakshi Rao Nimbalkar, and dedicated to H. E. Lord Carmichael, Governor of Bengal, his paper on Kappilian (Cumbum) breed sent to Mr. Sampson, Special Officer deputed for Cattle Survey, and his evidence before the Forest Committee, are marked by practical common sense and an earnest desire to improve the agricultural industries of the country.

The Victoria Memorial High School at Periyakulam, started to commemorate the august reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, is under the wise and generous guidance of the Zamindar, who, as its President and Manager, spares neither time nor money in its management. The present most satisfactory condition of this institution is chiefly due to his liberality, and the Government justly appreciated his service in the cause of education by granting him a certificate of honour on the Coronation Day of Edward VII in 1903 at Delhi. The school is now located in a fine building at a cost of Rs. 20,000, the major portion of it being borne by him. On the day the Zamindar sent his elder son to school for the first time in 1902, he made a gift of the site on which the High School stands. He maintains

a model Primary School of his own at Vadagarai. In recognition of his services in the cause of education, H. E. Sir Arthur Lawley, as Chancellor of the University of Madras, nominated him a Fellow thereof. He has instituted annual prizes to some of the successful students of the Madura College, and Meenakshi Girls' School, Madura. Many poor students of the Madura District and elsewhere, find in him a ready and willing patron. He takes warm interest in the well-being of the Native College, Madura, of which he is one of the most distinguished alumni, and it is through his efforts that the Native College Day has become a permanent institution. He has been on the Visiting Committee of the Newington Institution, Madras, for the last eight years, and the Government of Madras have praised him for his services and have selected him as a member of the Rajkumar College Committee. He is a prominent member of the Madras Central Agricultural Committee and an honorary visitor to the Coimbatore Agricultural College. He was instrumental in founding the prize, called "Lawley's Prize," to the best student of the said college to commemorate the interest evinced by His Excellency Sir Arthur Lawley in starting the institution. He is a member of the Telugu Academy, the Cosmopolitan Clubs at Madras and Madura, and the Union Clubs at Madura and Periyakulam.

His administration of the Periyakulam Municipal Council, of which he has been Chairman since 1904, has been a marked success. The good work done, and the energy and public spirit displayed by him, have won from the successive Collectors of the District, and the Government of Madras, warm appreciation. The revenues of the Municipal Council have risen from Rs. 23,000 to about Rs. 42,000, and he deserves to be congratulated on the other results achieved.

The important Water Works at Periyakulam, which have cost the Municipal Council Rs. 2,30,000 were, through his efforts, brought to a successful completion on the 4th June 1912. The supply of water is a great boon to the town on account of its purity and lightness. He is fortunate in having seen the execution of the Irrigation Work, called "Berijam Lake," formed to the north-west of Kodaikanal hill station, to supplement irrigation and the water works.

When Colonel Pennycuick was in charge of the great Periyar Water Works, his long-cherished object of bridging the important rivers, Varaha and Pambar, in Periyakulam, and the Vaigai river near Kunnur, could not be carried out for various reasons. But the strenuous efforts made by the Zamindar in his capacity as Member of the Legislative Council and as Chairman of the Periyakulam Municipal Council, induced the Government



THE ZAMINDAR OF
VADAGARAI AND DODDAPPANAYAKKANUR, AND HIS SON.

of Madras and the District Board of Madura to sanction the bridging of these rivers, at a cost of two lakhs of rupees.

The Municipal Hospital to be built shortly, at his instance, on modern lines, by getting a liberal grant from the Government of Madras to the extent of about sixty thousand rupees, will add beauty to the place and bring health to the town and the surrounding villages. He was successful in obtaining a sanitary grant of about a lakh of rupees from the Government during a period of four years for removing the congestion from the municipal town and acquiring house sites for extension.

At the end of 1909 the Southern Zamindars elected him almost unanimously to represent them in the Madras Legislative Council. Since he took his seat on the 4th January 1910, he has worked heart and soul to further the interests of his constituents. His courtesy, forbearance, and just sense of proportion have combined in earning for him both from Government and his co-legislators not only their patient hearing but also loyal co-operation. The Maharajah of Venkatagiri, the President of the Landholders' Association, Madras, has recorded his opinion in the following terms :—"I am glad you are willing to stand for re-election to the Council. I hope that the excellent services you have rendered in the past as a representative of Zamindars in the Council will be appreciated by the Zamindars and that you will be returned to the Council once again to continue your good work." In recognition of the good work done by him in the Council during his first term, he was unanimously elected by his constituents again in December 1912. He took his seat in January 1913 for the second term. He has been evincing very great interest in his duties as a legislator, and his constituents are highly satisfied with him.

He holds the hereditary Dharmakarthaship of the Malaimel Vaidyanathaswami temple, situated on a beautiful hillock, from where one can command a view of the whole of the green paddy fields and lovely tanks in the village. In July 1912, Sir S. Subrahmanya Iyer, President of the Dharma Rakshana Sabha, and the Honourable Mr. Sivaswami Iyer, then Advocate General, selected the Zamindar as one of the members of the Rameswaram Devasthanam Committee to represent the non-Brahmin communities of the Madura and Ramnad Districts. His work in this direction is characteristic of his zeal and earnestness.

He was in Madras in 1906 to meet their present Majesties when they visited it as Prince and Princess of Wales and had the privilege of being presented to them. In appreciation of his public services he was made a *Rao Bahadur* in 1908. The Government of Madras chose him to represent the Zamindars of North and South groups at the Delhi Durbar of 1911, at which function he was present and was accorded the rare honour of paying

his homage to Their Imperial Majesties. He then won the distinction of *Diwan Bahadur*, and a Durbar Medal, and his son, who had accompanied him, was a page to H. E. Lord Carmichael, then Governor of Madras.

His plan for the formation of a Co-operative Bank to help Zamindars has been favourably received by the Land-Holders' Association, and if it is approved of by the Government, it is likely to do immense good to those concerned.

The Zamindar is well known for his piety and charitable disposition and for his substantial aid to almost all the public institutions and movements in South India. He is a most loyal subject of His Majesty. After the purchase of the Doddappanaikkanur Zamindari, he is the owner and proprietor of 20,000 acres of dry, wet, and forest lands in both the estates.

As (the Hon'ble) Mr. Francis has officially recorded in the District, Manual, "He has since December 1904 distinguished himself as a patron of education, a protector of beautiful topes, planted by his forbears in the neighbourhood, and an experimentor in scientific agriculture, and the Chairman of the Periyakulam Municipal Council", not to speak of the larger influence he wields in the higher sphere of public life in Southern India as a respected member of the Madras Legislative Council. That he is one of the finest specimens of Zamindars in the Presidency of Madras there are no two opinions. He is still comparatively young, and South India may continue to enjoy the benefits of his services for several decades to come.



H. E. LORD CARMICHAEL, THE KUMARA RAJAH OF KURUPAM, AND THE SON OF THE ZAMINDAR OF VADAGARAI AND DODDAPPANAYAKKANUR.

DIWAN BAHADUR
MUTHURAMASWAMI KALINGAROYAR AVERGAL
ZAMINDAR OF UTTUKULI (COIMBATORE DISTRICT)

The old records connected with the history of Kalingaroyar's family were somehow or other lost during the troublous times of Tippu Sultan of Mysore. What little we have, was gathered from old writings, and traditions, and Olugu accounts by Muthu Ramaswami Kalingaroya Kavundar, the thirteenth Polygar of Uttukuli, written on cadjan leaves as *Vamsavali Kyfeit* on the 25th Panguni in the year Visu, and which is still preserved by his successors.

During the time of Authondai Chakravarthi, one of the Chola kings, one Kalingan of Sathanthai Gothram (a very ancient family), was the ruler of Perianadu-Nadu-mandalam, which was occupied by the Vellalars, a powerful community in those days. Authondai Chakravarthy, with the help of the Chera and the Pandya Kings, took possession of Nadumandalam, and with a view to disperse these Vellalars from their stronghold, he sent some of them with Chera, and some with Pandya, when Sathanthai Kalingan accompanied Chera to Konganadu.

Another tradition is that they were sent as presents to the Chera King who married the Chola Princess, named Rishabadri. Whatever it was, it is certain that they once migrated to Konganadu. At that time, this country was mostly covered with dense forests, and was divided into twenty-four portions.

Pundurai, one of the divisions, consisting of thirty-two villages, was bestowed on Sathanthai Kalinga Kavundar. He was made Chief of that place, with Vellodu as his capital. He constructed a temple there, and dedicated it to Padagavalli Nachiar. He went to his brother-in-law, *Pannaikulathan at Karur and proposed his daughter for his own son.* The betrothal was made, but a slight incident occurred which caused the postponement of the marriage. During his stay, the cook of the bride's party asked his master whether coarse or fine rice should be cooked

for the guests. He replied in jest "what matters it if you cook coarse rice or fine rice for the people living in dry lands? cook anything." Being offended at this remark, Sathanthai Kalinga Kavundar, with his party, left the place immediately, saying that he would marry his daughter after he could raise wet crops in his lands. On his return to his capital, with a dejected heart, he prayed to his tutelary deity for the grant of wet lands and retired to bed. He vowed a life of penance till his prayer was granted, and left his beard to grow in token of his vow. An old Brahmin appeared in his dream and asked him to open a channel from the Bhavani river in the direction of a serpent that would guide him. He instantly woke up and his eyes lighted upon a serpent gliding before him. He followed it for seventy miles (seven kathams), when it stopped near Kodumudi on the Bhavani river. There he began the channel and made ready to construct a dam with stones brought from the Urachi Hills. But it was obstructed by Vellai Vettu Polygar on the ground that the land in question was his own. His objection was overcome, and an anicut and a channel as far as Kodumudi were built at an enormous cost. They were named after the serpent *Kalingan Channel and Anicut.* All the dry lands of Pundurai division were then converted into wet lands. Since he was the founder of the Kalingan Channel and anicut, he added to his name the appellation of *Kalingan* and also called the paddy that was grown in his fields as *Kalingan paddy.* As his object was fulfilled, he went again to Karur and celebrated his son's marriage according to his promise. He then came back to his country and lived with his family in peace and plenty.

One day Sathanthai Kalinga Kavundar fell fast asleep in fatigue, when a barber came and shaved him deep in slumbers. When he awoke he was very much pleased with the barber and asked him what he wanted. He replied that something should be done to commemorate his name. According to his request Sathanthai Kalingan founded a village near Kalingan anicut, and called it after him as *Navithapalayam,* and granted it to him as a freehold. Kalingan channel and anicut are said to have been constructed about 2000 years of Kaliyuga Sakaptam, and stone statues of Kalinga Kavundan and the serpent were placed near the anicut, and festivals and *pujas* were performed by his descendants and other ryots.

The name of Kalinga Kavundar became famous in these parts and he grew in power as time went on. But the Pattagars of the other twenty-three divisions of Konganadu became jealous of him and declined to bestow equal honours on and grant equal seats to him, on the score that only Kavalikkanadu was given to him and not Pundurai division; so he became disgusted with them, went to his place, Kavalikkanadu, near

the Anamalai hills, built some huts and lived there with his family and cattle.

Pundurai was said to have been in the possession of Kalingan's family till the time of the twenty-third Polygar. At that time Mysore had sway over these parts and money tribute was levied. An army from Mysore stationed itself at Satyamangalam and began to worry the Polygar for its maintenance. As their demands were not met, they annexed all the places near the Bhavani river.

The Polygar went to the Royar Samasthanam to recover all his lost honours, and waited there for twelve years without being able to see him. He became very much disheartened, and went to a Kali temple situated to the south of the path leading to Penukoudapattanam, prayed to the goddess to relieve him from his distress, and then fell asleep. The goddess appeared in his dream and said "Royar's son became insane twelve days ago; take some sacred ash from the temple and sprinkle it on the insane prince and he will at once recover from his malady. Royar will then send for you and gratify your wishes". He did so, and the prince recovered his lost faculty and went to the palace free from his malady.

Devaroyar, who was then the ruler of Penukonda Vijianagar, at once sent for the man who cured his son of his distemper, and granted him the title of *Royar* in perpetuity, made him the Chief of Kavalikkanadu, and granted him a sannad, with all the honours and insignia of royalty, to rule over that part of the country. He returned to the place where he had left his family and cattle near Anaimalai side, cleared the forests, formed a village, and called it *Uttukuli*. It took its name from water pits or springs sunk by his shepherds for his cattle (Uttu—spring and Kuli—pit). There he built his palace and began to rule the country as the *Polygar of Uttukuli.*

Another version of the origin of Uttukuli Palayam is also mentioned. After Vellai Vettu Polygar was driven away from his country by Sathanthai Kalingan, he went with his followers and settled near the Anaimalai Hills His descendants began to harass the people of the adjacent countries, when an enquiry was made by Devaroyar, the then ruler of Penukondapattanam, as to the person that subdued Vellai Vetturan. When Nanjia Kalinga Kavundan, the younger son of Kalinga Kavundan, went and saw Devaroyar at his Court, the latter commanded him to go to Anaimalai side, subdue Vellai Vetturan's descendants, take possession of all the places occupied by them, convert the forests into villages and become the Polygar of that place. Accordingly he drove them away, cleared the forests, founded a village called Uttukuli, and established himself as the Polygar of Uttukuli.

The first Polygar of Uttukuli, Kalingaroya Kavundar, made a pilgrimage to all the sacred places in the South and distributed gifts. He built a temple and consecrated it to the goddess Agathuramman. He reclaimed all the lands in his Palayam, dug up wells and channels for irrigation purposes, and ruled over his country with glory and happiness. The country at that time extended forty miles from east to west and twenty miles from north to south and was bounded on the north by Ellaipallam, on the east by Thalakkaraipallam of Ponkulikkinadu, on the south by Nallurkkanadu Palar, and on the west by Kampalaturai Manali river.

Little or nothing of importance is mentioned about the Polygars from the second to the eighth in the line as they ruled peacefully under the authority of the Royars.

At the time of the ninth Polygar, Nanjia Kalingaroya Kavundar, Viswanatha Naick was reigning as the king of the Pandiyan country. All the Polygars attended his Court and paid homage to him. But five Rajahs built five forts in Tinnevelly and defied his authority. At the command of the Naick, Nanjia Kalingaroya Kavundar went against them, besieged their forts, and brought their heads as a sign of his victory and placed them before the Naick. He was much pleased with his valour and bravery and called him as the valiant (Parakrama) Nanjia Kalingaroya Kavundar, appointed him as the commander of the fifty-first Kothalam or fort, and assigned the palayam as a free jaghir. This state of affairs continued till the eighteenth Polygar.

The Polygars from the nineteenth to the twenty-third were obliged to guard the country below the ghats, which was under the sway of both Madura and Mysore Samasthanams. When it was entirely brought under the control of the Mysore Samasthanam, the twenty-third Polygar, Nanjia Kalingaraya Kavundar, paid a visit to Immudi Raja Wadiyar, its ruler. As Coorg (Kudagu) was then opposing Mysore, he commanded the Mysore army and subdued the ruler of Coorg. Raja Wadiyar was delighted with his heroism, gave him a gold gilt palanquin and other presents, and fixed a peishcush of 7?0 pons for the nine villages of the Palayam. The Polygars had then under them 5,000 footmen and 5,000 horsemen and one Kadagam of elephants. They stationed themselves at Anaimalai, captured elephants and supplied them to the palace and were also guarding Anaimalai and Marchinaickenpaliem. In consideration of these services, the Polygars were allowed to levy tolls on goods passing through their country. Changes in the Samasthanams brought on troubles to the Polygars, when the twenty-sixth Chief was deprived of half of his Kaval or guard. He was also defeated in a battle with the

Rajah of Kallikota (Calicut) at Ellapalli, but the toll was levied till the time of the twenty-eighth Polygar.

It is an open secret that oppression and harassment became the order of the day during the time of Tippu Sultan. The twenty-ninth Polygar who assumed charge of the estate on the 4th Masi of the year Virodikrudu, Kaliyuga 4891, was much harassed by Tippu Sultan and his army, when he sent away all the members of his family to Bombay, and remained alone in Uttukuli anxiously waiting for the East India Company's rule. In the year Sitharthi, Major Commander Samusam Ali Sahib of the Palghat fort, Sithi Ottu Sahib Durai, the head of the Bombay Fouzdars, and General Otley Sahib were very kind to him on account of his loyalty to the British Government, and on the assumption of the rule over that country by the East India Company he was granted a sannad as the Polygar of Uttukuli on payment of seven-tenths of the revenue to the Company. Since then the Polygars have been in peaceful possession of their Palayam.

Muthukrishnaswami Kalingaroya Kavundar, the thirty-first Polygar, who was born in 1832, directed his attention towards the improvement of his estate. He acquired large tracts of land in Anaimalai and Marchinaickenpalayam villages, and bought two villages in the Cochin territory, *viz.*, Thaniapadam and Meenatchipuram, and made some additions to the palace. When he was young, his mother, Nanjia Ammal, had a large terraced building constructed in Ambarampalayam out of her pocket money and made it a chattram for the weary travellers. He died when he was forty-two years old, on the 23rd April 1871, leaving behind him two sons. The elder son, Sivasubramanya Thirumurthi Kalingaroya Kavundar, was born in 1852. He picked up some English under private tutors, but was a good scholar in Tamil. He succeeded his father in 1874 and remained in charge of the estate for only seven years, as his life was cut short early in 1881. He added another village by purchase to what his father had acquired in Cochin, and took special interest in the management of his Devastanam, as he was much inclined towards religion and philosophy. *He had always an assembly of learned Pandits and Vedantins about* him and was investigating the highest truths of life. As he was engaged in Vedantic study, he was called "Vedanta Durai". He left no heirs.

The present Zamindar of Uttukuli is the thirty-third in descent and is the second son of *the thirty-first Poligar. He was born on the 24th* January 1864, and had a very narrow escape from the attack of small-pox in his childhood.

During his boyhood he was placed under various private tutors, but paid very little attention to study and was always bent upon play and games. He had a great love for horses and dogs and maintained a number of them. He spent his time in hunting, wrestling and gymnastic exercises, and was also an intrepid rider besides being a lover of music. He not only learnt music himself but also sent for the best musicians from other places and encouraged them with liberal presents.

His elder brother died in his twenty-second year and left no heirs, and so he succeeded him in his eighteenth year (1881), when he began to realise his position and responsibilities. He lost no time in placing himhelf under the tuition of Mr. Wright, a retired Eurasian Inspector of solice, who was once a School Master, and diligently set himself to work Pard. By constant association with him and his family he learnt to talk and write English well and became conversant with the etiquette of high circles, both English and Indian. He formed the acquaintance of many European and Indian gentlemen and freely mixed in their society. He made large additions to his ancestral palace which was of antique design, formed a well laid-out garden and a small menagerie, and built a bungalow with play grounds and a billiard room and called it "The Golden Grove". In making these improvements, he was much assisted by one of his employees, Mr. Nanu Pillai of Trivandram. This building is more or less reserved for the distinguished visitors and friends going to Uttukuli. The birth of a son and heir to his estate took place on the 12th April 1894, in response to the wishes and prayers of his devout tenantry, and it proved a turning point in the career of his life. He then took personal interest in the management of the estate, regularly set apart hours for his office work, systematised the accounts and brought everything into working order. By his tact and skill he showed an increase of revenue in his estate to the extent of Rs. 20,000. In 1894 Samatur Zamindari was encumbered to the extent of thirty thousand rupees, and the then Zamindar being the nearest relation of the Zamindar of Uttukuli, entrusted the management of his estate and the care of his minor son to the latter. He removed himself to Uttukuli with his family and was entirely under the support and protection of the Uttukuli Zamindar. It was also his express wish that his minor son should marry the Zamindar's daughter. At this stage the Zamindar of Samatur died on the 14th November 1895. Mr. Bradley, Collector of Coimbatore, recommended to the Government that the management of the estate of the late Zamindar of Samatur and Kottampatti should continue in the hands of the Uttukuli Zamindar. The Government approved it, and the encumbered estate was entrusted to the Zamindar. By

his prudent management he was able to augment the income of the estate of Samatur by Rs. 5,000 per annum, discharged the whole debt in the course of about eight years and left a surplus after spending Rs. 3,000 for repairing irrigation works, Rs. 5,000 for improving the Zamindar's palace, and Rs. 8,000 for the minor's marriage with his daughter on the 17th November 1901. The estate was formally handed over to him in 1902.

After the demise of the late Zamindar of Mywadi, the estate was placed under the guardianship of the District Judge; and at his request the Zamindar of Uttukuli took up its management on the 4th February 1898. He served for sometime in the District and Taluk Boards and took keen interest in their affairs. He has been an honorary visitor to the Agricultural College and Research Institute at Coimbatore for the last five years. His able management of his estate and his interest in public matters procured him the awards of certificates of honour from the Government of Madras on two occasions.

Among his donations and contributions to movements of public utility may be mentioned his subscriptions of Rs. 500 towards the construction of the new hospital at Coimbatore in 1910, Rs. 1,000 for constructing an operation shed in the Veterinary Hospital at Coimbatore, Rs. 300 towards the Edward VII Memorial Fund, and Rs. 250 towards the construction of a building for the Y. M. C. A. at Coimbatore. For the last two or three years he has been paying contribution for awarding one gold medal in his name and two silver medals in the name of his eldest son to the successful students of the Veterinary College at Madras. As a patron of learning and literature, he opened in 1912 an elementary School at Uttukuli for the benefit of the children of his zamin and gave a donation of Rs. 3,000 for the construction of a School building, and a monthly contribution of Rs. 20 for the maintenance of the school. In the same year, he presented the Municipal Hospital, Coimbatore, with an X-ray apparatus costing about six hundred rupees. In 1913, he contributed Rs. 1,000 towards the Funds of the Coimbatore College, and paid Rs. 1,000 from his own pocket and collected Rs. 3,000 from his community towards the opening of the Public Park at Coimbatore.

The Zamindar is unassuming and simple in his manners. He is known to be a cultured and enlightened gentleman of his community. He is very kind and is easily accessible to all. He always sympathises with his tenants and helps them as far as possible. The poor and the needy find a patron in him. During the outbreak of plague in and around Uttukuli in August 1910, the Zamindar assisted his tenants with money and grain as well as building materials. This and similar acts of

generosity have made him popular with the ryots and other classes of people with whom he comes in contact. He is a loyal subject of the British Government and commemorates the political events in a tangible form so as to benefit his tenants at the same time.

Among the conferees of the birth-day honours in 1913, the Zamindar of Uttukuli was the recipient of the well-merited distinction of *Diwan Bahadur*. At the public durbar held at Coimbatore on the 21st September 1913, the Collector of the District, presenting the sanad, observed :—

I need hardly say much about our friend, Mr Ramaswami Kalinga Royar, the Zamindar of Uttukuli. He stands out typical of what we would like the great landholders of this country to be. Though educated, he does not despise agriculture. He is a shrewd and hard-working administrator of his vast estate and has developed its possibilities to a very high degree; at the same time he is a great friend of his tenants. He has taken a leading part in all public movements. His public benefactions are many and useful and I need not weary you with a list of them. At the same time, the Zamindar is most modest and retiring. He represented this district at the Delhi Durbar at considerable expense to himself.



THE ZAMINDAR OF SALUR

SRI RAJAH LAKSHMINARASIMHA SANYASI RAJU PEDA BALIAR SIMHULU BAHADUR GARU ZAMINDAR OF SALUR

Salur is one of the ancient zamindaries in the Vizagapatam District, Madras Presidency, and it appears to have been granted by Visvambhara Deo of Jeypore to a Chieftain of the Kshatria caste. As a mark of appreciation of the extraordinary valour shown by him, he was offered the lofty title of "Peda Baliar Simha," which means a great mighty lion.

The zamindari was enjoyed by the grantee and his successors for sometime, and passed to the Rajah of Vizianagram when Jeypore made over to him all the old hill zamindaries. At the time of the first settlement of the English, Sanyasi Raju was the holder of the zamindari; and when he raised a rebellion against Vizianagram, the northern portion of his estate known as "Makkuwa Paragana" fell to his foe. Misfortunes then clustered round the zamindari and its holders. Sanyasi Raju died in 1774, and his eldest son, Ramachandra Raju, after an interregnum of twenty-two years, obtained a cowle for the whole zamin in 1796. After taking charge of the zamindari, Ramachandra Raju sub-rented the Makkuwa Paragana to his first cousin, Chandrasekhara Raju, fixing the rent at Rs. 14,000/-a year. But the cowle granted by him was indefinite as to its period. Subsequently, Chandrasekhara Raju claimed the whole of the Makkuwa Paragana as his absolute property, asserting that it had been granted to his father by Ananda Gajapathi Raj of Vizianagram and by Vikrama Deo of Jeypore and produced some documents in support of his contention, though their authenticity was seriously questioned by Sanyasi Raju. He wanted to have the Paragana permanently settled in his favour and to obtain a permanent sanad in his name; but his attempts in this direction proved futile. The District Officers, who had to deal with this very important question, were fully convinced that, as the request of Chandrasekhara Raju was unreasonable, it would be quite unjust to comply

with it and make Makkuwa a separate zamindari. Ramachandra Raju died in 1801, and a permanent settlement was made with his son, Sanyasi Raju, for the whole zamindari of Salur including the Makkuwa Paragana at an annual peshcush of Rs. 36,000/-entirely ignoring the claims of Chandrasekhara Raju. Subsequent to this, Chandrasekhara Raju filed a civil suit in the Vizagapatam Zilla Adalat Court against Sanyasi Raju for the recovery of Makkuwa Paragana. There again he was unsuccessful. Thus the permanent settlement made with Sanyasi Raju in 1801 was judicially confirmed. Sanyasi Raju was succeeded in 1830 by his son, Narayana Ramachandra Raju. He died in 1846, and as his son, Sanyasi Raju, was then a minor, the estate was managed by the Court of Wards during his minority. He attained his majority in 1854 and held the reins of the management of the zamindari for fifteen years and died in 1869. His only son, Jagannadha Narayana Ramachandra Raju, was a minor, and the estate had to pass a second time under the management of the Court of Wards. On his coming of age in 1880, he assumed charge of his estate and, after a peaceful and uneventful management for fourteen years, died at Salur in 1894, leaving a minor son, who is the present Zamindar.

The present Zamindar is the tenth in descent from the founder of the zamindari and the fifth from Sanyasi Raju with whom the permanent settlement was made and to whom the Sanad-i-Milkiat-Istimirar was granted. He was born on the 28th May 1885, and was brought up in the fort at Salur till his father's death in September 1894. As he was then a minor, the estate was for the third time taken under the management of the Court of Wards. He thus had the opportunity of going to Madras and receiving English education at Newington under a European tutor and guardian until 1905, when he was sent back to his estate to acquaint himself with its management. On the 22nd May 1906, he assumed direct management of his zamindari. As a minor, he had also the advantage of travelling all over India and visiting most of the important places in India and Ceylon.

In 1900 he was sent back to Salur for his *Upanayanam*, which ceremony was celebrated according to the Vedic rites under the immediate supervision of one of the best vedic scholars of the Northern Circars. The Court of Wards sanctioned his marriage with a sister of the present Zamindar of Chikati in the Ganjam District, and it was celebrated at Chikati. The bride brought to him a pretty large dowry.

During the short period he has been in charge of the estate, he visited Madras several times and had interviews with His Excellency the Governor on all the occasions. He is a young Zamindar of exceptionally good character and of high religious principles. His devotion to God,

respect for Brahmins and kindness to cows are unparalleled. Though a Vaishnavite, he is a staunch devotee of Siva. He pays personal attention to every affair connected with his estate. He is blessed with three sons. His eldest son and heir-apparent was born on the 20th August 1908, his second son on the 16th July 1911, and his third son on the 22nd May 1913.

Salur zamindari is surrounded by the Government Revenue Taluqs of Parwatipur, Bobbili, Gajapatinagaram, and Pottangi, and consists of three Firkas of Makkuwa, Maradam, and Salur. It contains 102 Zeroity villages, 26 P. S. enfranchised agraharams, 9 subsequent Agraharams, and 17 subsequent Mokhasas.

The total revenue of the estate is Rs. 1,13,804-0-0. The rent value of all the subsequent Inams is Rs. 50,214-0-0. The peishcush payable to the Government at present is Rs. 27,991.

Salur is the headquarters of the zamindari. It is also the headquarters of the Government Deputy Tahsildar and Sub-Registrar. It has a Lower Secondary School maintained by the Lutheran Mission Society. There is also a Sanscrit School known as Vedasamajam, teaching vedas and sastrams to a pretty large number of Brahmin students, which receives a large contribution from the Zamindar for its maintenance.

Though the Zamindars of Salur are themselves Telugu people, and their mother tongue is Uriya, they make their marriage alliances with certain important Uriya zamindari families in the Ganjam District. Thus the offspring of the Salur Zamindar have the advantage of mastering both languages, i. e., Telugu and Uriya. The present Zamindar, as has already been mentioned, married a Chikati lady. His father married a lady of the Parlakimedi family, while his grandfather had his spouse out of the Bhonj family of Gumsur in the Ganjam District.

It is a matter very much to be regretted that no reliable information is available regarding the early history of this zamindari and family previous to the permanent settlement. During the last sixty years the zamindari had to pass thrice into the management of the Court of Wards, when the estate records, falling into the hands of several officials, were destroyed or otherwise made away with. During the minority of the present Zamindar's father, the estate had been leased out to Jagannadha Sanyasi Raju, one of his uncles, for five years, when some of the most important records are said to have been intentionally destroyed. These circumstances account for the paucity of interesting or important old documents connected with the estate.

SRI RAVILLA VENKATA RANGA APPASWAMI NAIDU GARU ZAMINDAR OF ILAIYARASANANDAL

Ilaiyarasanandal is an ancient estate originally known as Mannaria (royal) Palayapat, in the Tinnevelly District of the Madras Presidency. It is divided into two parts which are in the occupation of two separate Zamindars. *The place is called Ilaiyarasanandal as it is said to* have been founded by an Ilaiya (young) Rajah, probably of Malabar. The existence of the ruins of forts, tanks, and temples, is a proof of it.

The Zamindars of Ilaiyarasanandal belong to the Godasatu Kammawar section of the Naidu community, Ravilla being their family name. About the origin of the Kammawars, *Brahmananda Purana, Kalidarma Prakarnam*, says :—The Kammawars were born to the descendants of the Solar King, Dwilipa, and, as they had alliances with the lunar race, they were known as Upayadis. The original man is said to have been one Dharmapala, and the family guru, Dharmasilan. A member of the lunar race tried to carry away a daughter of Dharmapala, named Kannikamani, when the parents of the girl, with a view to disgrace him, had a black dog disguised as a girl, left it in the house, and migrated to the southern parts. At that stage a river barred their way. They begged of the Rishi, Jamadagni, who was busy doing a penance on the bank of the river. There were with him his wife, Renukadevi, and also Parasurama. Renukadevi gave them her ear ornament (known as kamma), directed them to attach veneration to it and further added that if they did so, the river would give away. This came to pass. Since then they have been called Kammavaru. From that time forward, they show great respect to the names, Jamadagni, Renukadevi, and Parasurama. On marriage occasions they first offer prayers to these, and then to their family guru, Palabhadra. The Kammawars are divided into two classes, Godasatu (gosha) and Gampasatu (not gosha).

The Zamindars of Ilaiyarasanandal trace their descent to Ravilla Veera Mallappa Naidu, the Commander of the Cavalry under Krishna Deva Rayalu,

King of Vijayanagar. When feudatory states were formed during the days of Achuta Deva Rayalu, Ravilla Veera Mallappa Naidu was placed in charge of the countries lying between Travancore and Calicut, with orders to keep in readiness 6,000 infantry and 400 cavalry. On behalf of the King of Vijayanagar, he took part in many battles and won great victories. He ruled at Roya Vellore as a Feudatory Chief. He captured an impregnable fort called Audi Venna Droog, and ultimately obtained from his sovereign Sonangipuram as a jaghir. After the fall of Vijayanagar, the descendants of Veera Mallappa Naidu migrated to Trichinopoly and settled there as Sardars under the Naick Kings. For services rendered to the latter in reconciling the differences that had arisen between the Naick Kings and the Ruler of Tanjore, the Naidus were granted the jaghir of Thirukottupalli, the fort of Koviladi, and some villages in the District of Tanjore, and on another occasion, the jaghir of Ilaiyarasanandal and eighteen villages in the District of Tinnevelly. During the time of Chanda Sahib, the jaghir was converted into a peshcush-paying Zamindari, and after the advent of the British it was recognised as a *Kattukutthagai* Zamindari. The estate was divided into two parts in or about 1810, when Peria Kasthuri Ranga Appaswami Naidu ruled over it. In the time of his successor, there were many suits for a partition of the zamindari, and the ultimate decision was that the junior members of the family were entitled to maintenance. Ravilla Venkata Ranga Appaswami Naidu (1854-1869) made an addition to the estate by purchasing a mittah called *Nainanagram* yielding an annual income of ten thousand rupees. His successor, Ravilla Kasturi Ranga Appaswami Naidu (1869-1900), was well educated in Sanskrit, Telugu, Tamil, and Hindustani, and was very popular. He was a recipient of a certificate of honour in recognition of his loyalty and fidelity to the British Government and charity to the poor, on the memorable occasion of the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi in 1877.

His son and successor, the present Zamindar, Sri Ravilla Venkata Ranga Appaswami Naidu Garu, was born in 1877. He received the early part of his education at Tinnevelly in the Hindu College, and later, at home, under able tutors. He is a good scholar in Tamil, Telugu, and Sanskrit. He has a great taste for music and is a good musician himself. He is a member of the Taluk and District Boards. Since 1910 he has been managing the estate very efficiently.

His younger brother, Sri Ravilla Appaswami Naidu, born in 1879, is a highly cultured gentleman. He passed the Matriculation Examination from the Pachaiyappa's College, Madras, and, after finishing the First-in-Arts course, stopped his college studies. He has landed property to look after, and manages it very carefully.

SRI PEMMASANI N. KONDALROYASWAMI NAIDU GARU ZAMINDAR OF KURUVIKULAM

Adhivira Thimmappa Naidu, the first prominent member of the Kuruvikulam family in the Tinnevelly District of the Madras Presidency, was one of the trusted officers of Sri Krishna Deva Rayalu, the renowned King of Vijayanagar. He later became the ruler of Gendikota, Udayagiri, Kondavidu, *Penukonda, Cuddappa, Sithavattam, Nellore, and Kanagagiri* near Orissa, with an annual income of twenty-four lakhs of rupees. Under the orders of the King of Vijayanagar, he had in readiness 25,000 infantry, 15,000 cavalry, and 40 elephants. After the declension of the power of Vijayanagar, Adhivira *Thimmappa Naidu and his descendants migrated* to Southern India.

Pedda Veerappa Naidu, one of the successors of Adhivira Thimmapppa Naidu, in consideration of the former greatness of the family, was conferred *the Jaghir of Kuruvikulam, the first of the seventy-two* palayapats, and the first of the two *mannaria* (royal) palayapats, then established by the Naick King of Madura. Pedda Veerappa Naidu proved very useful to the British in their battles against Panchalam Kurichi and *the Malayalam country.*

Vijaya Minakshi Naidu, the Minister to the King of Madura, bore the following testimony in writing to the Honourable East India Company regarding the Pemmasani family :—

The ancestors of the Pemmasani family, during the reign of the Rayars, were the rulers of Gendikota. After the fall of that place, they repaired to our dominions, when Viswanatha Naick, King of Madura, conferred on them the Jaghir of Kuruvikulam. All the Poligars, with the exception of the Poligar of Kuruvikulam, within the jurisdiction of the King of Madura, whenever they went to their King, paid homage to him by prostrating themselves at his feet after placing in his presence flowers made of silver and gold and also a silk cloth, and then stood at a respectful distance with folded hands. On the contrary, when the Pemmasani Naidus were announced before the King, he welcomed them by shaking their hands and offered them an equal seat.

Like Ilaiyarasanandal, Kuruvikulam became a peishcush-paying Zamindari in the days of the Mahomedan rulers, and after the Permanent Settlement, the British recognised it as a Kattukutthagai Zamindari. The Zamindars of Kuruvikulam are Godasalu Kammawar Naidus, Pemmasani being their family name. They represent one of the nine families that had proved very useful to Krishna Deva Rayalu, King of Vijayanagar.

During the time of Sri Nandaswami Durai Kondalroyaswami Naidu, the twenty-third in descent, and grandfather of the subject of this memoir, his cousin desired a partition of the estate, when the Court of the Principal Sudder Ameen of Tinnevelly, in a lengthy judgment, among several other items, stated :—

On a deep consideration of the records filed in this case, the plaintiff, it seems to me, can only file a suit for maintenance, suited to his dignity, but not for a partition of the estate.

In the appeal to the High Court of Madras, the decision of the lower Court was upheld.

The Zamindar built many temples, mantapams, and other useful institutions. He laid down good roads at his headquarters and constructed a choultry for travellers. On the occasion of the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi in 1877, the Government of India presented a certificate of honour to Mr. Kondalroyaswami Naidu, in recognition of his loyalty and fidelity to the British Government and charity to the poor.

His son and successor, Sri Thimma Nandaswami Naidu, who was in charge of the estate for some years, and who was in indifferent health, resigned the management in favour of his son, Sri P. N. Kondalroyaswami Naidu, the present Zamindar. He was born in 1878. He is a very intelligent and cultured gentleman of good parts. He is a member of the Taluq and District Boards, Chairman of the Kuruvikulam Union, and Vice-President of the Koilpatti Taluk Board. The Government of Madras recognized his services in this direction by presenting him with a certificate of merit on the occasion of the Coronation Durbar of 1911. He is a good Tamil scholar and an excellent musician. He is very popular with the officials of the District, and is held in great esteem by his brother Zamindars and friends. He presided over the Kamma Conference held in March 1914, at Kapileswarapuram in the Godavari District, when his closing speech, delivered in English, was listened to with rapt attention and admired by the audience for the masterly way in which he dealt with the questions that were discussed by the delegates, and the valuable suggestions he made to them for their future guidance.

BABU SUKHRAJ ROY

ZAMINDAR OF NATHNAGAR, BHAGALPUR (BIHAR)

The rich and extensive zamindari of Babu Sukhraj Roy lies in the Districts of Bhagalpur, Patna, Monghyr, Purneah, Santal Parganas, Malda, etc. The total area under cultivation comes to more than one hundred thousand acres with a happy and contented tenantry of 125,000 souls. The family of the Zamindar who is by caste a Sreemal follower of the Swetambar Jain religion, is noted for its many acts of charity and munificence all over Northern India. It is of Rajput origin. According to the traditions of the family, one of the remote ancestors had migrated from Rajputana, and settled down in Delhi, in the time of Prithvi Raj Chauhan. His descendants rose to power and influence under the Moghuls, and some of them became Sardars in the Court of the Emperor Akbar and his successors. One of them, Mohanji, was invested in 1624 by the Emperor Jahangir with the hereditary title of *Roy*, with a sanad, and was also granted a suitable jaghir together with the command of five thousand troops. He had a highly religious turn of mind, and his Acharya, Jin Chandra Suri of Kharthargacha, convinced the Emperor of the superior tenets of Jainism. His son and successor, Roy Hardeoji, born in 1620, was also a courtier of the Emperor Shah Jahan's court. He too was a staunch religionist, and his influence over the Emperor was such that that monarch had the greatest regard for some of the doctrines of Jainism, especially the one relating to tenderness to animals. But in the fratricidal war that followed the reign of that Emperor, he thought it advisable to sever his connection with that religious bigot, Aurangazeb. Instead of taking sides with any of the brothers that were contending for the father's throne, even during the life-time of that Emperor, Hardeoji left Delhi for good and settled down in Bengal leaving the family fortunes to his brother, Amrit Lalji, who also later on left Delhi for Jamboo (Kashmir). Hardeo Royji arrived in Purneah (Bihar) in

1649. Thus leaving the ancient seat of the family where they had settled down for about five hundred years, he had to seek his fortune in a new place under the most difficult conditions. But his great capacity and business habits soon brought him success, and he was able to amass a large fortune and acquire extensive estates. In 1671 he was succeeded by his adopted son and nephew, Sambhu Royji. He was also a man of great capacity and extended the banking business in different parts of Bengal. When he died in 1738, his son, Majlis Royji, continued his work and was equally prosperous. He commanded influence all through the province as a great and good man of charitable disposition. He was particularly kind and helpful to those of his own persuasion, and many a Jain family in the Province owes its success and prosperity to his timely help and advice. In 1787 he was succeeded by his eight-year-old minor son, Salamat Royji. In his days also the family prestige was maintained unimpaired, and he was able to accumulate wealth. He enjoyed the special confidence of the British Government, who conferred on him several zamindari rights. He built many Jain temples and established several charitable institutions. As a Jain he was against fishery operations; and at great personal sacrifice he abandoned the settlement in his zamindari and discouraged fishing as an industry among his tenants. He died in 1838 leaving a minor son, Babu Lekhraj Royji. The Court of Wards took up the management of his vast estates, and as the young Zamindar was of delicate health, he was taken to Rajgiri, a sanitarium in the Sub-Division of Bihar. When he came of age, he also proved to be a capable and benevolent Zamindar, and kept up the noble traditions of his family. Not only were the charitable institutions established by his ancestors maintained in efficiency, but he added many to them by opening orphanages and poor houses for widows. At the time of the visit of the Prince of Wales (His late Majesty King Edward VII), he was presented to His Royal Highness at Patna. He died in 1881 leaving a minor, four years old, Babu Sukhraj Roy, the present Zamindar.

After managing the estate for a few years, the mother thought it best to entrust it to the Court of Wards, and she looked after the education of her son. For this purpose she removed to Bhagalpur, and there the young Zamindar enjoyed all the advantages of a high class education. He attained his majority in 1897 when he took charge of the estate. He takes a lively interest in all public affairs. He is extremely popular among his tenantry. He makes large remissions of rent in times of scarcity and derives the greatest pleasure in helping those who are in need. He keeps up the noble traditions of the family for charity. He has established several schools within his estate and maintains many free dispensaries.

He is doing very useful public service as an Honorary Magistrate, as a Municipal Councillor, and as a Member of the District Board, Bhagalpur. In recognition of his valuable services to the public, he was presented with a medal and a certificate of honour at the time of the last Delhi Durbar. He is a pious man too, and has built a large and beautiful Jain temple at Nathnagar, which attracts vast crowds of pilgrims, from far and near every year. He has two sons, Roy Kumar Singh, born on the 25th August 1897, and Abhoy Kumar Singh, born on the 24th September 1904. Both are being given an education suited to their high position in life.

Babu Sukhraj Roy has still many years of active and useful life before him, and the *Zamindari* as well as the whole Province may still look forward to him for many tangible proofs of his heart and public spirit and derive the fullest benefit from his counsel and leadership as a prominent citizen of Bihar.

SRI RAMACHANDRASAWMY THEVAR ZAMINDAR PALAIYAMPATTI

It need hardly be said to the reader of the account of the Ramnad Samasthanam, which appears elsewhere, that the Palaiyampatti zamindari is an off-shoot of that illustrious estate, which has had at its head only three successive zamindars. The first of these made a mark in the history of its origin; the second distinguished himself as a public-spirited and highly cultured zamindar; while the third and the present representative is known to be a budding young nobleman endowed with intellectual attainments of a high order.

Vijaya Raghunatha Ramaswamy Sethupathi had two daughters, namely, Mangaleswari Nachiyar and Doraraja Nachiyar. The former of the two dying in 1840, the latter succeeded to the zamindari, but she also breathed her last in 1845. Thereupon, Parvathavardhani Nachiyar, their mother, was recognized heiress to the estate and entrusted with its management in 1846. On the 24th May 1847, she adopted her sister's younger son, Muthuramalinga Thevar. The Board of Revenue in their order, dated 10th March 1849, declared that the adoption was invalid and that on the death of Parvathavardhani Nachiyar the zamindari would escheat to Government. The adoption was ultimately decided by the Privy Council in May 1868 to be valid and effectual; and Ponnuswamy Thevar, the nephew of Parvathavardhani Nachiyar and the elder brother of Muthuramalinga Sethupathi, deserved great credit for the trouble he took and the interest he evinced in winning the appeal. Rajah Muthuramalinga Sethupathi, in appreciation of the services rendered to him by his brother, Mr. Ponnusawmy Thevar, conferred on him the Sub-division Zamindari of Palaiyampatti, which now yields an annual income of about a lakh of rupees. The peshcush is paid direct to the Government. Messrs. John Bruce Norton and J. D. Mayne, the counsel for Parvathavardhani Nachiyar, entertained a very high opinion of the

masterly grasp of zamindari affairs displayed by Mr. Ponnusawmy Thevar and the facilities he afforded them in contesting the case. The Sethupathi raised Mr. Ponnusawmy Thevar to the exalted rank of Prime Minister, and a better selection he could not have made as it met with the approbation of all. The office of Minister was not a bed of roses, and he strove hard to quell the riots that sprang in the villages whose tenants were unruly. It was no easy task for him to put down the turbulence of the villagers and to see that peace existed from one end of the Ramnad estate to the other. Many charitable institutions, such as hospitals and schools, owe their existence to him; he facilitated pilgrimage to Rameswaram, Tiruppulany and Devipatnam by laying down good roads. He built many choultries and made endowments to a large number of temples. *He was a great Tamil scholar* which is evidenced by many of his publications, the prominent of them being a valuable treatise on Indian Medicine, and his patronage to learned men in Tamil literature was beyond all praise. He was known among the literati as the Kamban of the Pandiyanadu; for his poetical works, namely, Thanipadal-thirattu, etc., are proofs of his ripe scholarship. He was passionately fond of music, and men skilled in that fine art found in him a great patron. The Government of Madras, by virtue of his relationship to and the office he had held under the Sethupathi, invested Mr. Ponnusawmy Thevar with some civil and criminal powers. He died in 1869 with a splendid record of life spent as scholar, poet, and statesman. He had three sons, Messrs. Kottasawmy Thevar, Sivagnanasawmy Thevar, and Pandi Duraisawmy Thevar.

All the three young noblemen received their rudiments of learning under a competent English tutor, Mr. Regel, of scholarly attainments. When Messrs. Kottasawmy Thevar and Sivagnanasawmy Thevar were fit for higher education, they went to Madras and joined the Presidency College. Mr. Kottasawmy Thevar attained his majority in 1881, when he assumed charge of his zamindari. In 1888 he was made Honorary Vice-President of the Madura District Local Fund. He had not to wait long before the Government of Madras appreciated his gratuitous service with a *Rai Bahadur*, an honour considered great in those days. He was the founder of the Lodge Pandyan, 2356, E.C., in Madura, and evinced great interest in its progress. He had a great taste for music and was an accomplished player on the "Soragath"—an instrument used by proficient musicians in Northern India. He was a keen sportsman and an intrepid rider and a very fine whip of his day. His residence at Madura, with a very large compound and a tidily-kept garden, which is second to none there, is still known as *Shanmugavilla Palace.*

The prominent Englishmen of his days, namely, Messrs. Turner, Crole, Hutchinson, T. Weir, Eardley Norton, etc., were numbered amongst his friends, and a few of the letters addressed by some of them which we give below bear eloquent testimony to the high opinion they had entertained of him :--

Madras, *9th October* 1889.

My Dear Sir,

In answer to your good wishes of the season, let Mrs. Norton and myself ask you to accept ours. We trust you may enjoy good health and happiness, and I personally trust you will throw yourself into any good movement for your people's good. Your position and education are exceptional. I should like to see you exert both.

If you come to Madras, do not forget me. We shall be delighted to see you and to have a talk with you over things gone and things to come.

Believe me, with every kind wish,
Yours sincerely,
(Signed) Eardley Norton.

MADRAS, *April 15th*, 1885.

My dear Sir,

I did not write as I should have done at once to acknowledge your good wishes on New Year day. Allow me to thank you for them and to convey to you in return my sincere hope that many years of health and prosperity await you.

I am glad to hear that the ponies are doing well. I had selected them for Lady Turner and thought them both in temper and pace all that we could desire.

In a few weeks I leave India and it is impossible that I shall return to it ; but I shall leave with regret a land which I have felt so much interest in and with still more regret the many friends who have rendered my sojourn here a happy one.

I trust that in time Hindus will overcome their prejudices to travel across the seas so that I may be able to welcome some of my old friends in my native land.

With reiterated good wishes,
Yours very truly.
(Signed) Charles A. Turner.

The prominent members of the aristocracy, as well as the high officials, both English and Indian of the Presidency, were the best friends of Mr. Kottasawmy Thevar. His advice was sought in every dilemma, and in all movements of the District one might trace his growing influence.

His countenance was expressive of great dignity—one could almost say of conscious superiority; his kind look and his noble demeanour produced a pleasant impression, so that every one who approached him was charmed by the affability of his manners and the condescending kindness of his tone.

He died on the 27th August 1894 leaving behind him a son, Sri Ramachandrasawmy Thevar, born on the 7th January 1887.

Sri Ramachandrasawmy Thevar, the present Zamindar of Palaiyampatti, received his education at Newington in Madras. He is one of the very few young noblemen that have left the portals of that institution with decent learning and good manners. He surpasses many young zamindars in literary culture and also in the exposition of facts. His English intonation and the good command of words he has got are really appreciable. He has travelled widely in India and in Burma. He went to England twice, once in 1911 and again in 1914. He is the first Marawa nobleman to cross the sea, and there has never been a precedent in the ruling Marawa family of Southern India. He is a member of the Conservative Club and various Masonic Lodges in England. During his European tour, he visited places like Norway, Germany, and France. Mr. Ponnusawmy Thevar was a diplomatist, statesman, scholar, and poet; his son, Mr. Kottasawmy Thevar, followed in his father's footsteps and left behind him a splendid record of life most usefully spent; and we, therefore, presume that the grandson and son of such great personages, Mr. Ramachandrasawmy Thevar, who has acquired good knowledge and high class manners, will maintain the dignity, nobility, and greatness of the family of which he is the present representative.



Sri A. V. K. V. Thirugnyana Sambhanda Bandariyar Avergal
Zamindar of Vettavalam

SRI ARUNACHALLA VASANTHA KRISHNA VANADHARAYA *THIRUGNYANA SAMBHANDA BANDARIAR AVERGAL* ZAMINDAR OF VETTAVALAM

Vettavalam is an ancient, impartible, and inalienable zamindari in the Thiruvannamalai Taluk of the North Arcot District, Madras Presidency. It comprises thirteen villages situated in three taluks, namely, Thiruvannamalai, Thirukkovilur and Villupuram. Its annual revenue is about 30,000 rupees, and the peshcush payable to Government is Rs. 70.

About five hundred years ago, during the days of the Carnatic Kings, the countries between Madura and Thirupathi were infested with robbers and banditti, and their depredations could better be imagined than described. *The residents of those places, who had lost all their resources* by the sudden visits of the outlaws, removed themselves to far-off villages and settled there. The then Royar ruler sent for the ancestors of the present Zamindar of Vettavalam and desired them to rehabilitate the vacant towns and to revive the management of the temple at Thiruvannamalai, and, if they did, promised to reward them with the Pargana of Vettavalam and some taluks in Jinji, as jaghirs. They devised all means in their power and accomplished their mission. Besides obtaining the jaghirs, they found themselves placed as guards over 560 villages in the towns of Jinji, Thiruvannamalai, etc. The rule of the Royars was subsequently overthrown, and the Mahrattas grew into power. The territory of Jinji *then came under their sway. The Polygars of Vettavalam rendered yeoman* service to the successive rulers and maintained their position with becoming grace and dignity. In the wars between the French and the English, they took a prominent part and helped the latter to an appreciable extent. When the Carnatic was ceded to the British Government, the then Polygar of Vettavalam was in full possession of his palayam, consisting of thirty-five villages, of which five were shrotriams. He paid to the Carnatic Government a peshcush of 4,000 rupees, besides a nazrana of 1,000 rupees

annually. In addition to the Palayam of Vettavalam, he possessed the kavalli jurisdiction over and emoluments from 377 Sirkar villages amounting in grain and land to above 3,000 pagodas annually.

The palayam was resumed by the Collector, Captain Graham, in 1802 without any authority either from the Revenue Board or Government. On receipt of the letter in which he reported its resumption, the Board desired to know by what authority he had resumed it, and, in reply, Captain Graham stated that he had done so of his own motion in order to ascertain and report fully the extent of the resources of the palayam. At the time of its resumption he allowed the Polygar to continue in the enjoyment of his kavalli emoluments which, together with a tenth of the net revenue of the palayam, was paid to him till 1804. The same year his allowance was increased to one-third of the net revenue of the palayam but, shortly after, his kavalli fees were altogether resumed. In 1806,15 per cent. of these fees was settled upon him as a pension in common with other Menkavalgars of the District.

The Polygar's allowance was sanctioned as a substitute for the revenue of the palayam while under the Collector's management for the purpose of settling the amount of permanent jamma to be assessed. The Government expressly declared their intention, at the time of granting the allowance, of restoring the estate at a future period to the Polygar on zamindari tenure.

The kavalli pension was granted to the Polygar out of policy, with a view to remedy the disorderly state of the District consequent on the sudden abolition of the kavalli system, which took the bread off from the mouths of a large body of active enterprizing people whose local knowledge and habits eminently qualified them to gain a livelihood by plundering the inhabitants. The pension was not declared hereditary. The allowances continued to be paid up to 1861, when the Board addressed the Government recommending the discontinuance of the kavalli pension on the ground that it was not hereditary, and that these fees were the wages for services which were no longer required under the new system of Police then introduced.

As regards the Polygar's allowance, the Board, in the same year, urged on the Government the necessity and justice of redeeming the pledge, originally given them, of restoring the villages on zamindari tenure and of issuing an Istimrar sanad and resuming the temporary allowance granted in lieu of the emoluments of the resumed villages. At the same time they directed the Collector to ascertain whether the then Polygar was disposed to acquiesce in the proposed arrangement and in

communication with him to fix upon such villages as might equal, in yearly revenue, the average of his Polygar pension during the *years in which he had received it. The Collector reported that the Polygar acquiesced in the Board's wishes in waiving all claims to the palayam on consideration of receiving thirteen villages in lieu thereof whose revenue (amounting to star pagodas 1,419-3-27) should be equivalent in value to the amount of his polygar pension, and that he desired that these villages might be granted to him free of rent. The Government sanctioned these proposals on the 15th July 1816, but no Istimirar sanad was then issued.

The Zamindars of Vettavalam trace their descent to Vasantha Vanadha Raya Bandariyar. He was succeeded by his son, Periyar. Next came his son, Ponniyar. His successor was Arunachalla Vasantha Krishna Vanadha Raya Bandariyar. The Zamindar in 1814 was his son, Thandava Raya Bandariyar. As he had no male issue, he adopted his younger brother, Namasivaya Bandariyar, who ruled from 1814 to 1830. His adopted son, Vasantharaya Bandariyar, was in charge of the estate from 1830 to 1855. Arunachalla Vasantha Krishna Vanadha Raya Bandariyar, the second grandson of Sakkarayya, the son of the founder of the family, who had been adopted by the former Zamindar in 1855, ruled over the estate till 1869. He adopted his nephew, brother's son, A. V. K. V. Appaswami Bandariyar, who lived till 1888, when his brother, Sri A. V. K. V. Sakkarayya Bandariyar Avergal, succeeded to the zamin. On his death in the end of 1912, his son, Sri A. V. K. V. Thirugnyana Sambhandha Bandariyar Avergal, was declared Zamindar.

During the days of Arunachalla Vasantha Krishna Vanadha Raya Bandariyar and his successor, A. V. K. V. Appaswami Bandariar, the estate improved considerably. They put a stop to the gosha system that was observed in the palace and took their ladies on pilgrimage to far-off places. They were very popular with their tenants and the public, and the successive Collectors of the District held them in great esteem. They took a lively interest in promoting the objects of the *Vadalur Enlightenment Sabha*, started by Ramalinga Swami, by granting it money, land, etc.

In communicating the amount of peshcush to be paid by the Polygar, Mr. Hyde, Collector, on the 27th July 1817, by mistake fixed it at twenty pagodas, or seventy rupees, instead of at ten pagodas. In 1849 on a search being made in the records of the Collector's Office for revising the list of estates, the mistake was discovered and reported to the Board by the Collector, Mr. Davis. The Board recommended to the Government to sanction the reduction of the peshcush to ten pagodas as originally fixed, but they declined to do so on the ground that the higher rate

was formerly communicated to the Polygar, who raised no objection, and that it had been in force for upwards of fifty years. It was in 1871 that a Sannad-I-Milkiet Istimirar was granted to Sri A.V.K.V. Appaswami Bandariyar. He was the recipient of the following certificate of honour on the occasion of the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi :—

By Command of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General, this certificate is presented in the name of Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Empress of India, to M.R.Ry. Arunachella Vasantha Krishna Vanadha Raya Appaswami Bandariyar Avergal, Zamindar of Vettavalam, in recognition of his family claims and the valuable service rendered by his ancestors, in recognition of which the zamindari was bestowed upon his family in 1816.

1st January 1877. (Sd.) BUCKINGHAM.

Whenever the Zamindar and his predecessors went out of their palace on business or on pilgrimage, they were accompanied by all the paraphernalia of royalty, such as drum, silver mace, flags, elephant, horse, camel, five-coloured umbrella, etc.

During the minority of Sri A.V.K.V. Sakkarayya Bandariyar, the estate was managed by Mr. Kanagasabhai Pillai. With an aversion to live in the palace situated in the Vettavalam fort as almost all the former Polygars had no male issue, the young Zamindar had a bungalow built for himself in the village called Veerapandi, attached to the Thirukkovillur Taluk, and resided there till 1883, when he was married. He remained for a year in the old fort at Vettavalam, and then removed himself to the bungalow at Veerapandi. He insisted on his tenants and relations being highly religious, and to abstain from all intoxicating beverages. He went on pilgrimage to many religious places. In 1891, a son, the subject of this sketch was born to him. He laid proper roads, built bungalows for Government officials on tour, got proper tanks sunk for irrigating his villages, opened river channels, and in this way increased the revenue to an appreciable extent. Under the orders of the Government of Madras, he had the privilege to fine to the extent of Rupees three in each case such of the village officers of the estate as fell under Section II Act II of 1894.

The Zamindar resided permanently in his bungalow at the Veerapandi village, while his offices were held in the fort at Vettavalam under the departmental heads. He visited the palace in his headquarters on festive occasions, such as Pongal and Deepavali, and held a durbar, when a salute of nine guns was fired. He established boarding schools at Veerapandi and Vettavalam, and gave scholarships to a large number of poor and deserving students. He built choultries and poor houses at both the places. For the proper management of the estate, the Zamindar formed various

departments, such as revenue, treasury, forest, temple, store, record, and irrigation, and employed competent men for them. During his time, twelve men, incapacitated for work, were granted pension. He paid decent sums of money, every year, for the performance of important ceremonies in some of the temples situated at Palani, Kumbaconam, Sri Sankarachari Matam, Thiruvaduthurai Matam, Vriddhachalam, Thirukkovilur, Chidambaram, Parvathipuram, Thiruvannamalai, etc. He got the wedding ceremonies of many poor Brahmin young men celebrated at his cost, and gave large grants of land and money to the Agatheeswaraswami temple at Vettavalam. He made proper arrangements for the education of his son, and took him to Chidambaram, where the latter attended the Pachiappa's High School for eight years and made good progress in his studies. His wedding was celebrated in 1909 on a grand scale at Thiruvannamalai. Before the death of his father, the young gentleman received a good training in the estate management.

The present Zamindar, Sri A. V. K. V. Thirugnyana Sambhanda Bandariyar Avergal, visited Madras in December 1912 and interviewed H. E. the Governor of Madras. He has managed the estate for the last three years with much credit to himself and benefit to his tenants.

The former Zamindars, till the regime of Sri Venkatraya Bandariyar, held the management of the famous Arunachalleeswarar temple at Thiruvannamalai, and, when the Government of Madras established District Committees to look after the temples, he resigned the office, but, nevertheless, he gave away as gifts to the temple, his palace elephant and ten pagodas. The ceremonies instituted by the Zamindars centuries ago are still being performed at the temple, and their cost is met by the estate.

The estate of Vettavalam is situated to the south of Jinji and to the east of Thiruvannamalai. Its ancient fortress, measuring a furlong and a half, in length, is at the foot of the hills. It has four spacious buildings, three bridges, and a fine tank with a large garden of various kinds of trees at its bund. To the west of the fort there is the battlefield. The water in the well, at the foot of the hills near the fort, was examined by many Sanitary Officers and pronounced to contain some important mineral properties conducive to health. Two and a half miles from Vettavalam there are two hills, known as Pakkam and Durgam, on which are a fort, large tanks, summer residences of the former Zamindars, and gardens.

It is traditionally believed that during the days of Ponniyar, the third of the Polygars referred to above, the idol of Manonmani Ammen brought from Madura to Vettavalam was stolen away; that, after a time, when he proceeded to Arcot to pay his respects to the Nawab, the goddess appeared to him in a dream and said that she was in the possession of a butcher;

that he repaired to the latter, paid him a decent sum of money and brought the idol ; and that he placed it on the terrace of the palace, and got the usual daily ceremonies performed by Brahmins. The present Zamindar has a separate temple built for it and has made large grants of land for its upkeep.

The following mystic origin is attached to the land in the midst of the tank at Vettavalam, which is parched up at all times of the year:—On a festive occasion, while the most important tutelary deity of the palace, Sree Poovathai Ammen, was being carried in procession, the anklet, on one of the feet of the palace horse which had accompanied it, dropped on the green plot in the middle of the tank. After the animal had reached the palace, the loss of the ornament was discovered, and a thorough search for it proved futile. The following day, the grass on the whole surface seemed destroyed as if by fire, and the ornament was found lying there. Thenceforward the land has remained in the same state without anything growing on it.

The Zamindars of Vettavalam have, from time immemorial, been famous for their piety, charitable disposition, and loyalty to the British Throne. All important occasions, from the Jubilee celebrations of the illustrious reign of the Queen-Empress Victoria to the last Delhi Durbar, were commemorated in the estate on a grand scale to bring home to its tenants the importance of, and the advantages derived from, the British rule, The Zamindars are, as a rule, strict vegetarians and total abstainers. The present young Zamindar, who was trained by his father under his personal supervision, bids fair to be a model nobleman. He has many years of useful and active life before him. He has the co-operation and advice of the Manager, Mr. Appavu Nainar, his brother-in-law, who has acquired a thorough knowledge of the estate affairs, having worked for a long time under the former Zamindar.

THAKUR RAGHURAJ SINGH
ZAMINDAR OF PANDARIYA

The original home of this illustrious Raj-family is Chandrapur, which is now called Chanda, a district in the southern part of the Central Provinces (India).

This family in ancient times ruled over the said Chandrapur, which was a chieftainship during the Mahratta period. The originator of this family was Rajah Karkat Rai, the King of Chandrapur. Once upon a time, the Rajah thought of acquiring fresh territory and left his kingdom and proceeded towards the kingdom of Garha Mandla. On reaching the the capital of the latter kingdom he was welcomed by its king who gave Rajah Karkat Rai in perpetuity the State of Makrai in the Hoshangabad District of the Central Provinces. Rajah Karkat Rai ruled over Makrai for some years but eventually died leaving his son, Bhojsai, on his gadi. Rajah Bhojsai ruled for a period and died leaving Ratansai, his son. Rajah Ratansai had two sons, Paragsai and Kisrisai. On the death of Paragsai, his son, Ansulu being a minor, the succession devolved on his brother, Kisrisai. Rajah Kisrisai had a son, Lalsai. From the treatment accorded by his uncle to Ansulu, the latter was fully convinced of his exclusion from the succession after the death of Rajah Kisrisai, as he was inclined to put his own son on the gadi. Ansulu, therefore, left his country to try his fortune elsewhere. He reached Chandrapur (Chanda), the original home of his ancestors, a district in the Central Provinces, and as the Rajah of that country had no male issue, he succeeded him on his demise. Rajah Ansulu was succeeded by the following nineteen Chiefs:—Parsaja, Talkut, Palkote, Shivartan, Taramar, Phulsai, Kokepocha, Gainsai, Sonsingh, Bhimlocha, Moollocha, Tukaysai, Rampalsai, Pooshacha, Indireyansai, Sirday Kunsai, Hirday Rama, Hirday Bhima, and Ghogra Rajah. The last named with a view to obtain fresh territory proceeded to the kingdom of Ratanpur where he learnt of the weakness of the Phulgar Chief,

and, taking advantage of the confusion due to internal troubles, overthrew the existing government, and established his rule. The present holders of Phulgar, a well-known *Zamindari in the Raipur District*, trace their descent to Goghra Rajah. The following are the Chiefs of Phulgar, who ruled in succession:—Goghra Rajah, Mogra Singh, Halsai, Balsai, Jotiksai, Tribhuwansai, Pratapsai, Lachhmansai, Nilkanthsai, Ansai, Andlisai, Talachandsai, Prithvichandsai, Rewasai, Udhosai, Ajeetsai, Prithvisai, Jagsai, and Rani Sagun Komari, wife of Prithvisai, and Rani Kabilas Komari, wife of Servaksai who was brother of Prithvisai.

Rani Kabilas Komari adopted Rakshpulsingh, but he died previous to the adoption being confirmed by the British Government. She then adopted a minor, Bahadur Singh, nephew of Rakshpulsingh or son of his brother, Purshottam Singh. The present minor Zamindar of Phulgar is being trained by the British Government, and the estate is now under the management of the Court of Wards. The history and genealogy show that the Phulgar Zamindari is held by a branch of the Pandariya Raj family.

The Feudatory State of Karibheet Makrai in the Hoshangabad District of the Central Provinces has also been held by a branch of the ancient and illustrious Pandariya Raj family for more than twenty-nine generations. The following is a list of the Chiefs of that State:—Karkat Rai, Bhojshah, Ratanshah, Pargarshah, Kesrishah, Lolshah, Chhatrushah, Jotshah, Birshah, Bharatshah, Bhopatshah, Durajshah, Bhogshah, Taijshah, Gopalshah, Rumshah, Gumanshah, Koksai, Nawalshah, Kolodond, Piladond, Kalia Pahur, Bakarshah, Sandwashah, Moodjeeshah, Kondjishah, Gangjishah, Bhimjishah, and Hattay Rai. The last Rajah, Hattay Rai, had seven sons, who ruled over the State given against the name of each:—(1) Pratapshah succeeded his father, Hattay Rai, and his descendants still rule over the State of Makrai which is now in the Hoshangabad District, Central Provinces, (2) Ramajeeshah ruled over Sasligarh, (3) Gurbairaju—Garhgumari, (4) Dandhay Rai—Sagwan, (5) Barjorshah—Gurh not known (6) Jujharshah—Fataypur, and (7) Shiamchand—Bichhiya, Ramgarh, Mukutpur, Partapgarh Lanji Pandariya.

The present Zamindar of Pandariya is Thakur Raghuraj Singh, son of Thakur Gajpal Singh, by caste Raj-Gond, and by Gotra Pualstya. He holds the title of Thakur conferred on the family in ancient times by the Hindu Kings in perpetuity, and is a Durbari. He is an Honorary Magistrate exercising second class powers, and is exempted from the operations of the Arms Act. Pandariya, the chief town of the estate, is twenty-one miles from Mungeli and Lorni, fifty-two miles from Bilaspur, and forty-two miles from the Kuragi railway station. It consists of 345

villages, and its area is 487 square miles. It has a population of 61,040. The area of the forest is 191 square miles. The income from the villages and the forest is Rs. 96,256. The area under cultivation is, 1,58,631 acres and the minor crop area is 30,880 acres. The total contribution to Government is Rs 37, 673-12-0. The estate lies in the extreme west of the District of Bilaspur in the Central Provinces. Its length from north *to south is thirty-two miles and from east to west twenty-three miles.* The northern half is forest and hill, but the southern half forms a fine spread of open country of first-class agricultural capacity. Pandariya is the premier zamindari of the Bilaspur District and holds a unique position as the only estate included in the District, which was never a Chourasi of the Harhanwansi Kingdom. It never became an integral part of Chhatisgarh proper.

According to tradition, this tract of country was orginally held by a Lodhi who owed allegiance to the Kings of Garha Mandla. But in 1546 A. D., he rebelled against his master who put him to the ban of the empire and eventually secured his overthrow at the hands of Shiamchand, an ancestor of the present Zamindar. With the consent of the subordinate Rajah of Lanji, Shiam Chand was conferred the possession of Pandariya, which was then known as Mukutpur Pertappur in Sambat 1600 or 1543 A.D., over 370 years ago. The zamindari has been in the possession of the present family for fourteen generations. The original principal town of the estate was Kampthi, a village now in the heart of the forest country. Relics of an ancient settlement and a fort are still in existence. It is said that many old sculptured stones were removed to Setganga, a village on the eastern border of the estate in open country to construct the modern shrine which now stands there. This shrine and the khund (fountain) were erected by Thakur Garursingh. There are still several old tanks and temples. After Shiam Chand the following succeeded :—(1) Shiam Chand, (2) Kishodass, (3) Sheoramdass, (4) Deen Mani Rai, (5) Dooman Rai, (6) Barjor Shah, (7) Durjan Shah, (8) Dal Shah, (9) Prithi Singh, (10) Garursingh, (11) Jawahirsingh, (12)Ramsingh, (13) Gajpulsingh, *and (14) Thakur Raghuraj Singh, the present holder of the Pandariya Raj.* There exists a tank at Pandariya, called after the name of Durjanshah, and also a "Dalsagar," after the name of Dalshah. Thakur Gajpal Singh constructed a temple at Padhi and sank tanks at Padhi and Baghatpur,

Dalshah, eighth in the line as stated above, had three sons: Prithvisingh, Mahabali, and Harisingh. Gurursingh succeeded his father, Prithvisingh, with Mahabali, his uncle, as Minister. Mahabali was the founder of the Kawardha State, which is now held by the younger brother of the present Zamindar of Pandariya,

Thakur Raghuraj Singh has shown his public-spiritedness in several ways. He has sunk wells and repaired old tanks at enormous cost. He has shown his loyalty and devotion to the British throne by constructing a Sarai, called "Edward Sarai", in memory of His late Majesty King Edward VII. He has been giving large donations for works of public utility in the Province and has established a girls' school in Pandariya. He helps his Thikadars and ryots by remissions, taccavi, and relief works. He has spent over three and a half lakhs of rupees on various public works in his estate, and he is always ready and willing to do whatever is conducive to the well-being of his people. He has recently established a low-class school, which shows not only his keen interest in education but also his public-spiritedness.

The following is the origin and history of the Kawardha Feudatory State, held by a junior branch of the Pandariya Raj family:—In Sambat 1808 or 1751 A.D., during the time of Hatlay Rai, the capabilities of Mahabali, as Minister to Garursingh, were put to the test, when Mahabali was asked to assist the Rajah of Mandla against the Rajah of Saugor. Mahabali subdued the Rajah of Saugor and obtained for his services the State of Kawardha from Nijamshah. The rulers of Kawardha have ever since belonged to the Pandariya family. It is also traditionally believed that the Chief of Kawardha, named Sardarsingh, once rebelled against the Rajah of Mandla and Mahabali, defeated him and obtained the State. The family of Sardarsingh, the original Chief of Kawardha, still exists, and his descendants hold a zamindari, called Bhonda, in the Kawardha State, consisting of nineteen villages.

Mahabali, who ruled over Kawardha for fifty years, had two sons, one legitimate, Ujyarsingh, who succeeded him, and another, illegitimate, who was given the Loharu zamindari for his maintenance. After ruling for forty-seven years, Ujyarsingh died in Sambat 1906, leaving a son, Tokhsingh. After four years, Tokhsingh passed away without any issue. He was succeeded by his mother, Mt. Badan Kowar, who ruled only for a short time. After her came her daughter-in-law, Mt. Dhoop Kowar, who died in Sambat 1961. The succession then devolved on Thakur Jawahirsingh, the youngest son of the then Zamindar of Pandariya, Bahadursingh. Jawahirsingh had three sons. Ramsingh, Bharatsingh, and Bahadursingh. Ramsingh succeeded Jawahirsingh, Bharatsingh died without issue, and Bahadursingh succeeded to the Kawardha gadi for want of a male in that line. As Bahadur Singh also died without an heir, the second son of Ramsingh, Zamindar of Pandariya, succeeded to the chiefship of Kawardha. Ramsingh had two sons, Gajpalsingh and Rajpalsingh; and the former succeeded his father, while the latter became the Chief of Kawardha,

During the minority of Rajpalsingh, his adoptive mother, Mt. Roop Kowar, managed the State. On his attaining majority in 1875, he assumed control over it but ruled only for eleven years. As he too died without a male issue, again for the third time in the history of Kawardha, the second son of Gajpal Singh, the then Zamindar of Pandariya, succeeded to the gadi. Thakur Gajpal Singh had two sons, Raghuraj Singh and Jadunath Singh. The former succeeded his father and the latter is the present Chief of Kawardha.

The Chief of Kawardha possesses self-reliance and strength of character. He is amiable, sincere, and sympathetic. He is a good sportsman and shikari. He takes keen interest in education and lately established an English Middle School in his capital. He is an enlightened Chief and has the welfare of his subjects at heart.

The Loharu family is a branch of the Pandariya Raj family. Mahabali, the founder of the Kawardha State, gave away the Loharu Zamin, which was a part of his State, to his illegitimate son, Baijnathsingh, for maintenance. But after the advent of the British rule it was held as a separate Zamindari in the District of Drug. Baijnathsingh had three sons: Gulabsingh, Sonsingh, Kahirsingh. The first two died without issue, but the last had a son, Rajaysingh. Rajaysingh was succeeded by his son, Jagmohansingh, the present Zamindar of Loharu.

The Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, in defining and settling the status of the Zamindars of Chhatisgarh, recommended to the Government of India, Foreign Department, in his letter No. 4224—A, dated 2-9-1864, that Thakur Ramsingh, grandfather of Thakur Raghurajsingh, the Zamindar of Pandariya, should be classed as a Feudatory Chief or rather as a Chief above ordinary subjects. The Government of India in their letter No. 628, of 8-12-1864, returned the report with a suggestion that the tripartite Division made by the Local Government was not proper and that the three classes made should be again reclassed with a view to reduce them to two classes: (1) Feudatories (sovereignty), and (2) Non-Feudatories (non-sovereignty). The Chief Commissioner then drew up his final report, dated 1-3-65, in which so far as the Zamindar of Pandariya was concerned, he wrote as follows:

Out of the class denominated the Chhatisgarh Zamindars, five of whom named Khairagarh, Naudgaon, Kondka, Pandariya and Kawardha were placed in list I. Mr. Temple would exclude the Pandariya Zamindar from the class of Feudatories. The past history of this Zamindari does not differ materially from that of Kawardha and the Zamindar of Pandariya belongs to an older branc of the same house from which the Kawardha Chief springs. But the misconduct and mal-administration of the Pandariya Chief have been such that for many

years past the Pandariya Zamindar can in no case be said to have governed his own estates. His own misconduct then, and the consequences which have ensued thereon, make him unfit to be ranked as a Feudatory.

It is thus manifest that, though the Zamindari was held by its antiquity and importance to deserve the rank of a Feudatory, still, having regard to the *personal misconduct* of the then Zamindar, the Chief Commissioner excluded the estate from that class.

It was expressly laid down by the very same Government (letter No. 4224—A, dated 2nd September 1864) that personal incompetency of the then Ruling Chief should be no ground for exclusion from the list of Feudatories if the State was otherwise deserving of that rank, for it observed: "And again it would not do to base the classification on the personal character of the present incumbent; for the son may be much better or much worse than the father. The test has no permanency." It is therefore clear that in making his recommendations the Chief Commissioner had overlooked this clear and sound principle, and it is equally clear that, if the Chief Commissioner's report be read in the light of its own observation, Pandariya could not be excluded from the list of Feudatories to which it had formely belonged. As till recently all these papers were kept confidential and no one had access to them nor could any one divine the reasons that had led to the exclusion of the Pandariya estate from the Feudatories to which less important and even less deserving estates had been elevated.

It is the sincere wish of the well-wishers of the Pandariya estate that the mistake committed in 1864 should now be rectified and that the Pandariya estate should be elevated to the rank and position of a Feudatory which it was before the advent of the British and whose right to that status was so unequivocally admitted by the Chief Commissioner in 1864. The present Zamindar has earned golden opinions of all officers, and the confidence reposed in him may perhaps be testified to by the fact that he is an Honorary Magistrate, exercising second class powers, besides being a Member of the Local Board. He is the elder brother of the Chief of Kawardha and is motified to find that while his younger brother is a Ruling Chief, he, with superior claims, is no better than an ordinary subject and takes a rank below his younger brother in official precedence.

Thakur Raghuraj Singh, since his assumption of the estate, has paid Rs. 3,18,817 for public matters. In the famine of 1914, he spent over Rs. 16,000 to relieve the distress of his ryots and Thikadars. He subscribed Rs. 1,000 to the Rajkumar College, Raipur, Rs. 1,001 for the Imperial Indian War Relief Fund and Rs. 100 for the Prince of Wales Fund. He paid about Rs. 3,000 for the I.F.R.F. from his estate.

The successive settlements made of his estate have affected not only his dignity but also his income, so that now Pandariya is merely a shadow of its former self, shorn of its dignity, position and powers, revenue and right, so that while his estate is subject to not a few embarrassing restrictions, it does not possess a single distinguishing right from the ordinary Mulguzari Mahuls, who are even in some respects better off than the so-called Non-Feudatory Chiefs of Chhatisgarh.

The following extract makes the point clear. Speaking of the original classification of persons in his first report to be classed as ordinary subjects, the Chief Commissioner says :—

Their position in every respect would be capable of adjudication by the Chief Commissioner himself in the Settlement Department. They would probably be defined as Talukdars. In making settlements with them every regard would be had to their position and circumstances. Special liberality might be necessary in fixing their revenue payments or in defining their nominal rights. *The essential difference between them and the Chiefs would be that they* would not keep up any public establishment.

It was never intended to deprive the Non-Feudatory States of Chhatisgarh of all rights and privileges. On the other hand, so far as regards Pandariya and other estates excluded *in the final list* from the category of Feudatories, the Chief Commissioner awaited special instructions from the Government of India, as will appear from section 15, letter No. 891-47, dated Nagpur the 1st March 1865. But those instructions never came as the point appears to have been overlooked by the Government of India. However, the following facts appear to be established :—(1) That the Zamindar was a recognized Feudatory before the cession of Chhatisgarh to the British; (2) that his position as such was recognized by Sir Richard Temple ; (3) that on a reclassification being ordered applying a test pronounced to be fallacious by the Chief Commissioner himself, he was relegated to the list of Non-Feudatories.

The rupee has lost its purchasing power and the present standard of living is becoming more costly. It is rather hard to maintain the dignity and position when the successive settlements have increased the Government tribute in leaps and bounds. If the tribute of former times be compared with that of the present, it will show that the increase has been 300 or 400 per cent.

The second era opened writh the letter of Sir Edward Buck from the Government of India No. 625-65, dated 23rd March 1892. After allowing the Zamindars to continue in full possession of their rights up to 1882, an attempt was first made to deprive the minor Zamindars of their Police and Excise and on their offering no effectual protest, the Government of India

resolved to withdraw those powers and rights even from the remaining Zamindars including the Zamindar of Pandariya. But the Government ordered that the Zamindars should be permitted to become farmers of the Abkari monopoly in their respective estates for the term of Mr Purushottamdass's settlement. The Zamindars, though permitted to be farmers of the Abkari monopoly, were deprived even of this privilege, after the expiry of the then Settlement. The Government resumed the cattle pound in 1903. The takoli assessment passed through the following stages :—In 1864 it was Rs. 6,604-4-5, in 1874, Rs. 10,000, in 1891, Rs. 22,500, and in 1910, Rs. 37,673-12-0. This shows that the increase has gone up by several hundred per cent.

Thakur Gajpalsingh, father of the present Zamindar, applied to the authorities for his rights on the 23rd December 1875. He applied again on the 14th January 1876, and the reply received was as follows :—"As orders on the subject have already been passed once, this application be filed with records." He submitted a petition to the Deputy Commissioner on the 26th January 1877 and also to the Commissioner, and the reply received from the latter was as follows:—"In reply to your application, dated 3rd Instant, regarding the powers of a Feudatory or a Magistrate, you are hereby informed that the matter will receive my attention as soon as I receive the report from the Deputy Commissioner, Bilaspur." The Deputy Commissioner wrote in his letter No. 2008, dated 15th May 1882 : "In reply to your applications regarding the grant of Feudatory Chief's powers, you are hereby informed that I am unable to recommend you unless you improve your police administration.

"I will write to you something through the District Superintendent of Police. Please let me know your reply on receipt of the same."

The Zamindars of Raipur thought that the preparation of what has come to be known as the Scott's Wazibul arz was the last straw and against it they protested in no uncertain voice. But the Government paid no heed to their remonstrances. The Zamindars filed a civil suit against the Government, but in vain.

Thakuraj Raghuraj Singh memorialised the Secretary of State for India in January 1914, regarding his claims to be recognized as a Feudatory Chief, but without effect. All well-wishers of this ancient estate hope that Government will reconsider the Zamindar's claim to the rank of a Feudatory and will reduce the takoli which has been enhanced excessively and will restore to him his police, excise, cattle pound, etc.

SRI P. MUTHUSWAMI NAIDU GARU
ZAMINDAR OF VELUR

The Velur (Chatrapatti) zamindari is in the Palani Taluk of the Madura District. The ancestors of the Zamindar were once residents of Srivilliputhur in the present Ramnad District. During the Mahomedan raids they settled down at Dharapuram in the Coimbatore District. The great-great-grandfather of the subject of this memoir had two sons, Perumall Naidu and Numberumall Naidu, of whom the former was famous for his manly virtues, and the latter for his business-like habits. Numberumall Naidu who was very influential in Idaiyakkottai, which was within the jurisdiction of the Palaiyagar of Virupatchi, proved very useful to the British in bringing the Palaiyagar to subjection as he was hostile to them. They recognised Numberumall Naidu's services by allowing him to purchase four mittahs, out of the estates of the Chief of Virupatchi, which they put to auction. He knocked it down for a nominal price of 1,800 pagodas, equivalent to Rs. 6,300. The Government resumed two of the mittahs as the peshcush fell into arrears. As Numberumall Naidu spent far beyond his means, the tenants of the remaining two mittahs applied to the authorities for a transfer of the management to his elder brother, Perumall Naidu, which was accordingly done. Perumall Naidu had two sons, Muthuswami Naidu and Govindappa Naidu. During the time of Muthuswami Naidu, owing to famine and other unforeseen difficulties, the peshcush fell heavily into arrears. Unable to meet the demand, he resigned the right of one mittah in favour of the Government. The big tank, known as Muthu Bhupala Samudram, which is fed by a channel from the river Nankanji, and to which the Government have since allowed half the water of the river, for purposes of irrigation, owes its existence to him. He excavated another tank for the use of a village attached to his estate. He constructed a choultry at his headquarters, Chatrapatti, which is well looked after by the family. Of his four sons, the eldest, Perumall Naidu, succeeded to the estate.

When Muthuswami Naidu passed away in 1846, his son, Perumall Naidu, was but a minor of fifteen years of age. During his minority, at the request of his mother, the Government of Madras appointed his brother-in-law, Bhumi Naidu, as manager of the estate Sri Perumall Naidu was of a commanding aspect. The Governor of Madras, who visited Madura in 1871, was struck with the beauty and demeanour of the Zamindar, shook hands with him and showed a special regard in enquiring after his welfare. In connection with the Delhi Durbar of 1877, Mr. Perumall Naidu was the recipient of a Sannad-i-Milkiet Istimirar and the following certificate of honour :—

"By command of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General, this certificate is presented in the name of Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Empress of India, to Perumall Naicker, Zamindar of Velur, son of Muthuswami Naicker, in recognition of his position in the District of Madura and the loyalty of his family."

(Signed) Buckingham and Chandos.

Mr. Perumall Naidu was for over ten years a member of the Palani Devasthanam Committee and also of the Taluk Board. He built two temples for Siva and Vishnu respectively. He improved irrigation by excavating wells and tanks. He had three sons and two daughters, of whom a son and a daughter are living. His eldest son, the late Mr. Subramaniya Kuppuswami Naidu, was a very popular gentleman. He successfully introduced coffee plantation on a large scale in his estate. He built decent bungalows. He died from the effects of a carbuncle in 1904. The Zamindar's youngest son, Mr. Mounaswami Naidu, a very intelligent and painstaking student of the First in Arts class in the Presidency College, Madras, died of a bicycle accident. Mr. Perumall Naidu passed away on the 14th January 1907.

After him, Mr. Muthuswami Naidu, his second son and senior member of the family, was recognized by the Board of Revenue as the rightful heir and was declared Zamindar of Velur on the 28th March 1907. He has been a member of the Taluk and District Boards, and the Landholders' Association, Madras, for a number of years. He is a clever mechanic and skilled physician. He is a popular gentleman of good habits.

RAI DHANPAT SINGH NOWLAKHA BAHADUR OF AZIMGANJ

The representatives of the family to which Rai Dhanpat Singh Nowlakha Bahadur belongs are Oswal Jains who had migrated into Bengal in 1752 from Bikanir in Rajputana and eventually fixed their abode at Azimganj. The title of *Nowlakha* was bestowed on one of the ancestors of the family as he had given a dowry of nine lakhs of rupees to one of his daughters on her marriage. Thenceforward the family has been known as *Nowlakha*. Babu Gopal Chand Nowlakha was the first who emigrated to Bengal in 1752.

Babu Gopal Chand Nowlakha, who was a successful business man, amassed a large fortune. As he had no issue, he was succeeded by his cousin, Babu Jessroop Chand Nowlakha (1773-1843), who adopted Babu Hurruck Chand.

Babu Hurruck Chand Nowlakha (1815-1874) left his father and started business independently, as banker and merchant. His success was so great that he opened branch offices in Calcutta, Dhulyan, Sahebgunge, Purnea, Murligunge, Maharajgunge, Burea Kuari, Nowabgunge, etc. He purchased zamindari estates in the Districts of Murshidabad, Birbhum, and Purnea. He passed away on the 6th November 1874, when his only son, Babu Golab Chand Nowlakha, born on the 20th March 1850, succeeded him.

Babu Golab Chand Nowlakha extended his business by his efficient management. He was an Honorary Magistrate in the Lalbagh Bench Court, Murshidabad, for about ten years, but resigned it owing to ill-health. In the famine of 1885 that raged most furiously, Babu Golab Chand granted remissions of rent to his tenants, and fed two thousand people daily, from April to June. He was a cultured man of refined tastes and habits. His picturesque villa, "Rose Villa," in Azimganj, is admired by all who visit it. He had a great taste for music and encouraged those skilled in it. He was kind to all and very popular with Europeans, officials and non-officials. He married a lady connected with the family of Jagath Seth of historical fame. The result of the union was an only son, Rai Dhanpat Singh Nowlakha Bahadur. Babu Golab Chand Nowlakha, who was greatly respected by all classes of people, died on the 19th June 1896.

Babu Dhanpat Singh Nowlakha was born on the 15th December 1868, at Mahimpoor, in the house of the well-known Jagath Seth of Murshidabad. As he had lost his mother in his infancy, his paternal grandmother brought him up. The Government appointed him an Honorary Magistrate of the Lalbagh Bench on the 18th March 1903. The prominent of his contributions are Rs. 2,000 to the Victoria Memorial Fund,

Rs. 2,000 to the Edward Memorial Fund, and Rs. 7,000 to the Lady Dufferin Fund, Woodburn Memorial Fund, Transvaal War Fund, etc. In January 1904, he placed at the disposal of the Government of Bengal, Rs. 15,000 for the construction of a hospital at Azimganj, and supplemented it with a sum of Rs. 4,713 towards the completion of the building and outhouses. He later contributed the munificent sum of Rs. 25,000 in aid of a surgical ward in the Sambhu Nath Pundit Hospital at Bhowanipur in the suburbs of Calcutta.

The hospital building at Azimganj, the foundation-stone of which was laid by the Chief Commissioner of the Division, is known as "Golab Chand Nowlakha Hospital and Dispensary Building," in memory of his deceased father. The opening ceremony of the Hospital was performed with great *eclat* by His Honour Sir Edward Norman Baker, K. C. S. I., Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, on the 21st August 1909. The Government recognized the services of Babu Dhanpat Singh Nowlakha by conferring on him the distinction of *Rai Bahadur* on the 24th June 1910. The Lieutenant-Governor presented him with a khillat of a beautiful sword and a khalgi, and, handing him a sanad in open durbar at Berhampore on the 16th July 1910, said :—

Rai Dhanpat Singh Nowlakha Bahadur.—It gives me great pleasure to hand you the sanad of the title of "Rai Bahadur" which has been conferred on you by His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, together with the Khillat which accompanies the grant.

Your family has been settled in Bengal for more than 150 years and has flourished and prospered exceedingly. Following the honourable tradition of the Jain community, you have used your wealth in promoting the cause of public charity, with special regard to the relief of the sick and suffering. Nearly a year ago I had the privilege of formally opening a new building which you had constructed at your own charge for the Azimganj Municipal Hospital, to commemorate the name of your late father, Babu Golab Chand Nowlakha. Since then you have come forward with a most generous gift of Rs. 25,000, for the construction of a surgical ward in the Sambhu Nath Pundit Hospital at Bhowanipur in the suburbs of Calcutta. These are merely the latest of your benefactions which have always been on a scale appropriate to your wealth and position.

I congratulate you on the distinction which you have earned and I trust that it will prove to be merely the precursor of still higher honours in store for you in the future.

Rai Dhanpat Singh Nowlakha Bahadur has two sons, Annand Singh Nowlakha and Inderjit Singh Nowlakha. He is held in great esteem both by the Zamindars and by the Jains of Murshidabad. Since his assumption of the charge of the estate he has maintained the reputation of the family untarnished. He is much respected for his many noble and virtuous qualities. The family, of which he is the present head, is widely known for its piety, charity, and public spirit, and for its substantial contributions to many useful schemes.

SRI VADREVU VENKATA KRISHNA ROW GARU
ZAMINDAR OF VANGALAPUDY
GODAVARI DISTRICT (MADRAS PRESIDENCY)

It was Mr. Vadrevu Krishnayya, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, that purchased half the estate of Vangalapudy in the Rajahmundry Taluk of the Godavari District, Madras Presidency, in 1830, and the other half six years later. He died in 1870 at the ripe age of seventy-five, when he expressed a wish to his son that a choultry should be maintained in his name for feeding Brahmins and the poor of the other classes, and that pilgrims should be accommodated in it, which was accordingly done. He was succeeded by his son, Mr. Venkappa, in 1870, when he was forty-eight year's old. He was in charge of the estate for over twenty-five years and earned a good name. As he had no male issue, he adopted in 1887 one of his cousins, Mr. Venkata Krishna Row, the subject of this sketch.

He was born in 1877. He assumed the management of the estate in 1898 while his father was alive, as the latter, on account of the infirmities of old age, could not properly attend to business. He is an educated gentleman and manages the zamindari carefully. He is kind to his ryots and popular with the Government officials.

THE LATE SRI PONNAYYA THIRUMALAI VANDAYA THEVAR AVERGAL
ZAMINDAR OF KOLLANKONDAN
(RAMNAD DISTRICT)

Kollankondan is an ancient, impartible and inalienable estate in the Ramnad District of the Madras Presidency. The ancestors of the present Zamindar had migrated from Bunder (Masulipatam) and settled at Madura during the reign of Parakrama Pandya Rajah. In course of time, one of them entered the service of the Rajah and became the warden of a bastion. In lieu of payment, he obtained a village called Sundara Pandyam. The Rajah of Kollam (Travancore) with a large army went against Parakrama Pandya who was then residing in the South Alagapuri fort, when Audi Narayana Thevar, the Poligar of Sundara Pandyam, collected his forces, went to the rescue of Parakrama Pandya, and routed the army of the Kollam Rajah. Parakrama Pandya recognized the services of Audi Narayana Thevar by granting him the South Alagapuri fort and the lands attached to it, and got another fort built for him, and designated the whole as Kollamkondan to signalise the thorough defeat of the Kollam Rajah. Parakrama Pandya conferred the title of *Vandaya* in perpetuity on Audi Narayana Thevar and made him the first Poligar of Kollankondan.

During the time of Thirumala Naick, King of Madura, there was a theft of valuable jewels from the temple of Nachiyaramman at Srivilliputhur, when Muthu Pandya Vandaya Thevar, a successor of Audi Narayana Vandaya Thevar, detected the culprits and recovered the stolen property. When questioned by the King as to how Audi Narayana Thevar's service in this direction should be recognised, the latter desired the conferment on him in perpetuity of the name of the former. He was thereafter known as *Thirumalai* Vandaya Thevar. Thirumala Naick granted him other rewards with the insignia of royalty and temple

honours. He and his successors were held in great esteem by the Mahomedan rulers as they paid their tribute regularly and conducted their business peacefully. After the advent of the British, the jaghir of Kollankondan became a peishcush-paying zamindari.

In 1755 at the request of the Nawab of the Carnatic a force of 500 Europeans and 2,000 sepoys was ordered to proceed into the countries of Madura and Tinnevelly to assist in reducing them to his obedience. Muhammad Yusuf Khan was then the Commander of all the Company's sepoys. Regarding Kollankondan Dr. Caldwell, in his History of the District of Tinnevelly, says :—"But the Poligar of Calancandan (Kollamkondan now included in the Settur Zamindari), which lies thirteen miles north-east of Srivilliputtur, paying no regard to the usual summons Muhammad Yusuf marched and attacked his fort, which was abandoned after a slight resistance." In the events that took place subsequently the following is recorded :—" His (Muhammad Yusuf Khan's) first March was to Kollamkondan. He had taken this fort in 1756 ; but after his departure for the Carnatic Puli Devar and Vadakarai had extended their acquisitions thus far and placed their guard in Kollamkondan. It was a mud fort without cannon and, after a slight resistance, submitted to him." In the events following the death of Muhammad Yusuf Khan, we read :—"The year 1766 closed with the failure of an attempt on the part of Major Flint to reduce some of the more turbulent Poligars to obedience. On the 23rd of December he marched from Srivilliputtur for the purpose of attacking the fort of Calacunda (Kollamkondan)." * * "On the 26th April 1767, Colonel Campbell, who had marched from Rajapalayam on the 25th appeared with his force before Kollamkondan, where Major Flint four months before had sustained a repulse. His main object was to bring the defenders of the fort from escaping, but notwithstanding all the precautions he took, on his opening fire on the morning of the 1st May the fort was found to be abandoned. This was a great disappointment to Colonel Campbell, for, as he observed, unless the ringleaders of the rebels could be laid hold of, the only effect of taking and destroying their forts would be to oblige them to rebuild, which they could do at a far less expense than we could level."

Muthukaruppa Thirumalai Vandaya Thevar, the Zamindar of Kollankondan, in 1802, had a large family and was in indigent circumstances, and consequently, Mr. Lushington, Collector, fixed the peishcush at the nominal sum of five pagodas. Muthukaruppa Thirumalai Vandaya Thevar was succeeded by his only son, Thirumalai Vandaya Thevar. Then came the latter's son, Ponnayya Thirumalai Vandaya Thevar, who was in charge of the estate for fourteen years. He had no issue, and therefore, after him,

with the consent of his widow, Ayyamma Athall, his younger brother, Sankara Pandya Thirumalai Vandaya Thevar, managed the zamin for twenty years. Of his five wives, the first had predeceased him without children. The second, Vudayammall, also known as Poochi Ammall Athall, had two sons, Ramaswami Vandaya Thevar and Ponnayya Thirumalai Vandaya Thevar. There were two sons, by the third wife, Balatchi Ammall, namely, Thirumalai Vandaya Thevar and Subramania Vandaya Thevar. The eldest of all the sons, Ramaswami Thirumalai Vandaya Thevar, succeeded to the estate and held it for twenty-five years. As he had no male issue, his younger brother, Ponnayya Thirumalai Vandaya Thevar, became Zamindar. Ramaswami Thirumalai Vandaya Thevar's illegitimate son contested the estate, and the District Court of Tinnevelly decided in his favour. In the appeal before the High Court, the order of the lower court was reversed, and the claim of the appellant was upheld.

The former Zamindar, Sri Ponnayya Thirumalai Vandaya Thevar, a venerable gentleman, was nearly eighty years of age at the time of his death, which happened in the middle of 1915. Some years ago he built the *Kalianamantapam* in the temple at Seithur, and the annual wedding ceremony there was performed at his cost. The temples in Thevathanam attached to the Seithur estate and those in Rajapalayam received substantial help from him. He left behind him a large family of five sons, two daughters, and grand children. He was kind to his tenants and popular with all. His eldest son and successor is Sri Sankara Pandya Thirumalai Vandaya Thevar.



THE ZAMINDAR OF SERGADA

SRI SRI SRI SOBHA CHANDRA SINGH DEO GARU
ZAMINDAR OF SHERGADA

The Shergada estate lies south of Aska in the Ganjam District, Madras Presidency. Its area is about thirty-five square miles, and the population, according to the census of 1911, is 14,334. It is bounded on the North by the ranges of hills separating it from the Zamindari of Dharakota and Berhampore Taluks, on the East by the Godahado river, on the South by the Chinnakimedi, Peddakimedi, and Aska Taluqs, and on the West by the Bodogoda Taluq.

The whole zamindari is a very low fertile country, except a small portion on the northern side which is hilly and abounds in small thorny bushes, and which is inhabited by the Khonds. There is a river called Nanduni which flows from the west to the east and irrigates the whole estate except a very few villages. The river branches off into two smaller rivers near Keerthipuram, which is an enfranchised inam village belonging to Sri Jagannathaswami. One branch of the main river irrigates the southern part of the zamindari, and the other the northern part, whence it afterwards joins the Godahado river. The zamindari is also irrigated to some extent by tanks, sagarams and nallas, etc. Besides this river, the Rushykulya canal runs through the Taluq. The climate of Shergada is moderate and healthy, and the drinking water is very good. The prevailing languages are Uriya, and Telugu, of which the latter is not so largely spoken as the former.

The zamindari has a very small forest, and useful timbers are not available. The wild beasts that infest the forest are hyænas, bears, boars, deer, cheetahs, panthers, etc. The wild boars cause much damage to the crops in certain parts of the zamindari. As the present Zamindar is a good sportsman, he has reserved a very small portion of the forest near the palace which is useful for hunting purposes. The zamindari consists of forty-one villages including the village, Puritipenta, purchased by the present Zamindar, in the Vizianagram Samasthanam, Vizag

District, with the Jeroyiti, Agraharams etc., and the peishcush payable, including the cesses, amounts to Rs. 13,690—13—6. This estate yields large quantities of paddy and still larger quantities of cumbu, cholum, sugar-cane, gram, green-gram, black-gram, horse-gram, red-gram, tobacco etc. Hemp and jute are also cultivated to some extent.

The people of this estate are mainly Uriyas, while a small portion of them are Telugus. They are a backward class of people, and their general progress is retarded by their superstitions and prejudices. They are lethargic and wanting in energy, but very contented. This is probably due to climatic influence. The bulk of the people are either ryots or agricultural labourers. They are in want of education.

The agricultural progress in this part of the country is confined to the cultivation chiefly of paddy, sugar-cane, and ragi. In some parts groundnut is grown. Neither improved implements nor scientific methods of agriculture have been introduced. The staple food grains are rice and ragi.

From Shergada there is a main road, which runs from Ichapuram to Aska through Shergada Godo. There are two ways to go to Berhampore, one *via* Peddakimedi, a distance of twenty miles, and the other *via* Aska, a distance of thirty-two miles.

These roads are very good and motor cars can go without trouble. To go to Aska, there are no rivers to cross, but to Peddakimedi one has to ford the river Godahado, which is not bridged. At the instance of the present Zamindar of Shergada, the Government of Madras recently bridged the Nandurni river on the Ichapuram main road near Shergada. It was opened by Mr. Macmichael, the District Collector. The Rajah of Dharakota and the other neighbouring zamindars were present on the occasion and took part in the function.

The Zamindaries of Shergada, Bodagada, Dharakota and Surada were one in 1442, in the era of Vikramadithya. The estate of Shergada in the Ganjam District is as ancient as it is prominent. Its present Zamindar, Sri Sobha Chandra Singh Deo, has become an object of interest as well as of regard on account of his gentlemanly bearing, refined conversation, and lofty manners. He is a scion of one of the most ancient families of Northern India, known as the Singh, that had emigrated into Southern India some centuries back. No authentic records are forthcoming so as to enable us either to fix the date of the emigration or to mention the period when the particular member of the family left the land of his sires. The family is said to have descended from the Puranic "Nala". The Singhs originally resided in Jaipur (Rajputana). Sri Sobhachandra Singh Deo was the first who settled down at Ganjam in

Southern India in the middle of the eleventh century. What brought him all the way from Jaipur to Ganjam, whether it was war or any overwhelming grief, we are unable to say. He later became the Rajah of Patta Mundika by sheer force of arms. Patta Mundika was afterwards called Khidsinghi, which now comprises the estates of Shergada, Bodogoda, Dharakota, and Surada, and which is the home of a set of aboriginal tribes, known as the Khonds. Before Sobhachandra Singh Deo came from Jaipur, a Khond was governing the Khidsinghi country; and when his four sons quarrelled with one another over the right to govern the country, he told them that they were not entitled to it. The old man then prayed to his family goddess, Durga, to nominate a person as their head. One night he dreamt a dream that the following morning a man would come on horse-back to hunt in that forest, and that he should kill the man's horse and appoint him to govern the Khidsinghi country. Accordingly, the old man went to the forest early next morning, with some of his followers in search of the person foretold in his dream. He found a man coming towards him on horse-back, as he had dreamt the previous night. He and his followers succeeded in killing the horse at once, and they made that man their Chief. He declared himself to be a Kshatriya by caste and gave his name as *Sri Sobhachandrasingh Deo. He ruled over the Khidsinghi country* or Patta Mundika from 1168 to 1206 A. D., and made Shergada his head-quarters. After seven generations had passed, Bolhyarsingh Deo, a member of the ancient family, thought it proper to divide the Khidsinghi country among his three sons, who were frequently quarrelling among themselves. To Damon Singh, the son of his eldest son, Gangadhara *Pattakumar*, he gave Bodogoda Taluq. To his second son, Haddu Singh, he gave Dharakota Taluq, and to his third son, Sundara Damara Singh, he gave Surada, keeping Shergada to himself. This division took place in 1476 A. D.

Sri Lakshminarasingh Deo Garu, father of the present Zamindar, was a nobleman of modern spirit. He improved the estate by sinking wells, excavating tanks, and sagarams, and afforded other facilities for irrigating it. During his time, the Government of Madras had a canal constructed through his estate. He was a large-hearted Zamindar, for many poor and deserving people enjoyed the bounty of his gift. He was a good huntsman; many tigers and other wild animals fell under his gun. He advanced money to many Zamindars of the District in difficulty. He formed a new Jeroyiti village in his name and provided it with some tanks and wells. He passed away in 1897.

Sri Sobha Chandra Singh Deo Garu, the subject of this sketch, was born at Shergada on the 29th August 1883. During his minority the estate was managed by the Court of Wards. For his education he was sent to Chatarpur and placed under Mr. B. C. Chatterji. After some months he joined the Newington Institution, Madras, under the careful guidance of Messrs. C. Morrison and C. H. Payne. He received good education and learnt many sports. For his excellence in tennis, gymnastics, etc., he won medals from the Court of Wards and from the Ooty Gymkhana. He attained his majority on the 29th August 1904, when the District Collector, Mr. J. G. D. Partridge, placed him in full administrative charge of the estate. He has constructed a nice building for locating a club in the garden, called Nandano Bono, near the Palace. He has built a summer palace in the same garden for guests as well as for himself. It is excellently furnished and kept in a splendid style. A palace, at a cost of a lakh and a half, in up-to-date style, fitted up with magnificent electric lights and fans, by means of an electric installation, is in course of construction. When finished it will be the best of its kind in the whole of the District He has laid good roads in the estate. To improve the *morale* of the Indian Dramas, he has started a Dramatic club in his palace.

As he is a good sportsman, he has organized a Club under the name of "Sri Shergada Rajah's Sporting Club," which has on its rolls forty members for the different games, as cricket, foot-ball, tennis, shooting, etc. He devotes the major portion of his time to administrative matters and looks after the affairs of the estate personally, with the help of an intelligent Private Secretary, Mr. G. Radha Krishna Pantulu Garu, besides a good staff of officials. He attends the estate office regularly every day at noon, and disposes of all the petitions addressed to him. The way he holds his office, the manner in which he distributes work among his subordinates, and the proper check and control he exercises over them, speak very highly of his business-like and methodical habits. He is accessible to his ryots and readily redresses their grievances. He has relieved the pecuniary difficulties of many Rajahs and Zamindars in the District and also in other places, as Vizianagram, Chikati, Chinnakimedi, Bodarsingi, etc., by advancing them large sums of money. He has subscribed liberally towards the construction of a separate science building attached to the Kollikota College at Berhampore. By his prudent and economical management of the estate, there has been a rise in the revenue to the extent of twenty thousand rupees. The Government has granted him power to fine village officers. He is a member of the Ganjam District Board and President of the Ganjam Landholders' Association. He is related to many Rajahs and Zamindars in this District and in Orissa.

They all have a great regard for him on account of his urbane character and gentlemanly behaviour. Those who know him personally speak of him as a delightful companion, genial, open-minded, interested in many things, and given to hospitality. He spends some time every morning in attending to temple affairs and again in the evening with his courtiers, or rather Bhollo Lokkos, in some religious studies such as the Ramayanam, Maha-Bharatam, and Bhagavad Ghita. He is very desirous of having a combined Post Office at his headquarters for the good of the public and is willing to contribute towards its upkeep.

The Zamindar married a lady of the Parlakimedi family in 1904, but the Rani passed away after a short time. Later he married in the Kallikota family, and he has since been blessed with a son and heir. On the 21st day of the birth of the Prince, the Zamindar presented silk cloths to many poor people and held a ball in the palace; all this cost him nearly Rs. 15,000.

The Zamindar's venerable mother passed away on the 1st December 1907. During his minority she spared neither pains nor money towards his educational attainments. She was very charitable so that her son might prosper in the world. She built a temple dedicated to Siva. She contributed liberally in 1904 towards the Club which the Zamindar has built in his Palace.

As he is well educated, the Government have been pleased to appoint him a Member of the District Board, Ganjam. He is not only very popular among his subjects but is well liked by the Zamindars of his own District and elsewhere.

RAI BAHADUR GUNPUT SINGH
ZAMINDAR OF HARAWAT

Harawat is a rich and extensive zamindari in the Bhagalpur and other adjoining districts of the Bengal Presidency. Though the zamindari itself is of comparatively recent origin, the Zamindars trace their descent from an ancient Rajput family of the Khichi Chawhan clan, The ancestors of the present Zamindars were independent Rajahs of Sindh Mir-Khana and Basalapur near Ajmer. The first Rajah of this clan known to history is Somechand. About the middle of the tenth century Rajah Mahipal, the ninth in descent from Somechand, embraced Jainism in consequence of a miraculous cure of a long-standing disease by a Jain ascetic. The family have since remained in the fold of Jainism, and the subject of this memoir and his immediate ancestors have been the recognised leaders of the Jain community of Bengal. There was a son and heir, Rajah Manick Deo, born to Rajah Mahipal in 938 A. D. Manick Deo was a capable ruler and bold warrior. He changed the seat of government from Sindh Mirkhana to Basalapur near Ajmer. He vastly extended his territories conquering the Nagpur Province It is said that he spent a large sum of money in forming a big lake. The times of his son and grandson, Abhoy Singh and Surchander, were equally prosperous, and they are said to have conquered the Province of Malwa. Surchander had two sons, Dugar and Sugar, who started the system of *gothra* after their names. The third in descent from Dugar, Burdhman, had a big tank dug and put up a temple dedicated to Chandra Prabhu about the end of the twelfth century. The family continued to be prominent wherever it went, and about 1532 one member of it, Sukhji, came to Rajgarh, and distinguished himself in the service of Emperor Shahjahan, who conferred on him the title of *Rajah* and made him a commander of 5,000 troops. His great-grandson, Birdasji, came to Bengal in the eighteenth century from Rajputana and settled in Murshidabad as a banker. Himself, his son, Budhsinghji, and his grandson, Pratapsinghji,

were all shrewd business men, made immense fortunes, and led a life of influence and power. They became the recognised leaders of the Jain community of Bengal and received marks of honour and khillats both from the Emperor of Delhi and the Nawab Nazim of Bengal. They flourished as bankers, opened branches in different parts, and acquired zamindaries in several districts, such as Bhagalpur, Purnea, Rungpur, Dinajpur, Malda, and Murshidabad. They were also known for their charity and largeheartedness. Pratapsinghji died in 1840 and was succeeded by his son, Dhunput Singh.

He was a man of great parts and immensely rich. He was a sympathetic administrator of his zamindaries and was widely known for his acts of public charity. He put up *dharmasalas* and temples all over the country, from Calcutta to Bombay, nearly twenty-five places in the Bengal and Bombay Presidencies having thus been substantially benefited by his charities. In recognition of his liberality and public spirit, he was made a *Rai Bahadur* in 1865, a unique honour in those days. When His late Majesty visited India in 1875 as Prince of Wales, Dhunput Singh was presented to His Royal Highness. He was invited to attend the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi in 1887 and was awarded the Imperial Commemoration Medal. At the Golden Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Victoria in 1887, he had the honour of presenting the address on behalf of the Jain community. He died in 1896 leaving behind him three sons, Gunput Singh and Nurput Singh, sons by his first wife, and Maharaj Bahadur Singh, son by the second wife. During the life-time of their father, Gunput Singh and Nurput Singh separated themselves from the family, and as descendants in the senior line, they had the principal estate of Harawat; hence they are popularly known as the Rajahs of Harawat.

Their zamindari covers a total area of nearly 400 square miles. The soil is rich and fertile. It has a population of nearly 180,000 inhabitants. The estate produces wheat, rice, oilseeds, jute, sugar-cane, tobacco, etc. The headquarters of the estate is Gunputganj, named after the grandfather of the present Zamindar. It was founded some fifty years ago, and it is a principal place of trade in those parts. It is well provided by the liberality of the Zamindars with every convenience of modern civilization, *dharmasalas*, temples and *masjids*, medical halls and hospitals, schools and offices, factories etc. Pious Jains with scrupulous regard for animal life and charitably inclined towards their fellow beings, the Zamindars of Harawat are very kind to their ryots. By an efficient system of management they have considerably improved their estates; the tenants are loyal and devoted and they appreciate the timely help

they get from the Zamindars in the shape of advances, grants for the purchase of seed grains, and loans for agricultural improvements. In all their works of improvement, the Zamindars enjoyed the co-operation and help of their late Manager, Babu Kuldip Narayan. They have already spent three lakhs of rupees on works of public utility and famine relief. At a considerable cost they have put up a spacious and comfortable rest-house for travellers. The address to Her Majesty Queen Victoria from the Jain community on the occasion of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee in 1897 was presented by Gunput Singh through the Viceroy. In 1898 he was made a *Rai Bahadur*, and in 1900 his brother, Babu Nurput Singh, got the Kaiser-i-Hind medal. The elder brother is childless, and the younger is, therefore, the heir-apparent. The brothers are devoted to each other. The younger brother has three sons, Sruput Singh, Mahiput Singh, and Bhuput Singh, the eldest of whom is twenty-seven years of age. They are all well educated and enlightened, and they are being trained in the work of estate management.

As the leading family of the Jain community in Bengal, the Zamindars of Harawat hold a unique position. They are respected everywere and held in the greatest esteem.



Mr. V. P. MADHAVA RAO, C.I.E., DEWAN OF BARODA

Mr. V. P. MADHAVA RAO, C. I. E., DEWAN OF BARODA

Some men are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them—so said the Bard of Avon for all time. In Baroda none achieves greatness who has not character and capacity. Preferment does not go by favour in that enlightened and progressive State. Under its masterful Ruler who has impressed his personality on every branch of the administration, mediocrities cannot thrive. This accounts for the long roll of capable Dewans whom the Maharajah has called to his councils from different parts of India. In the past, we have had such distinguished men as Dewan Bahadur Srinivasa Raghava Iyengar and Mr. R. C. Dutt. The present Dewan is no less distinguished and has had the rare distinction of having administered two leading Native States, Travancore and Mysore.

Mr. Madhava Rao is thrice great—great by birth, great by achievement, and great by royal will. He comes of an ancient and respectable family in Tanjore, which had migrated from Satara immediately after the conquest of Tanjore by the Mahrattas. Born in 1850, he began his studies at an early age, and graduated (B. A.) from the Kumbakonam College in 1869. His university career was one of great promise, and the Principal of the College, Mr. W.A. Porter, admired his "independence of thought" and entertained a "high opinion of his personal character." Thus equipped, he joined the Mysore service, before the Rendition, in 1870, as a clerk in the office of the Guardian to His Highness the late Maharajah Sir Chamarajendra Wadiyar Bahadur, G. C. S. I., and subsequently became Head Master of the Royal School where the Maharajah was being educated. He did not remain long in this post, but was within a year drafted to the judicial department as Public Prosecutor. By the time the Maharajah had assumed direct control over the State, he had risen to be a Sub-Judge. It was when he was in charge of the Royal School, that he came under the influence of the famous Dewan, Mr. Rangacharlu, C. I. E, Mr. Madhava

Rao was one of the brilliant young men about Mr. Rangacharlu, and enjoyed the confidence and esteem and affection of that great man. It was under him that he obtained an insight into the principles of government and the problems which an administrator has to solve.

During the regime of Mr. (afterwards Sir) Seshadri Iyer, Dewan of Mysore, Mr. Madhava Rao exchanged the Judicial for the Revenue line. It was the executive branch of the administration that afforded full scope for the display of those powers of initiative, resourcefulness and readiness to take responsibility, which have marked him out as the ablest Indian Administrator we have had in recent times. As Deputy Commissioner of the Shimoga and Bangalore Districts, he was accessible, ready to hear and redress grievances, and interested himself in the welfare of agriculturists, in the improvement of the sanitation in towns and villages, in the providing of pure water, in laying out roads and planting avenues, and in restoring irrigation works. His devotion to work won the admiration of Sir Oliver St. John, then British Resident, while touring in the Shimoga District. This gentleman congratulated the Maharajah of Mysore on his having in his service an officer of the stamp of Mr. Madhava Rao. While he was Deputy Commissioner of Bangalore, Mr. Madhava Rao took the initiative in granting relief to weavers thrown out of work during famine by supplying them with thread and purchasing the cloths woven by them instead of driving them to do earthwork to which they were not accustomed. This system of relief has been adopted by the British Government since then.

After a successful career for nearly seven years as a District Officer, Mr. Madhava Rao was the first Indian gentleman to be appointed to the post of Inspector-General of Police in Mysore. He reorganised and improved the force and established the Police School at Bangalore. When the plague broke out in the Province, at the instance of Colonel Sir Donald Robertson, the British Resident, Mr. Madhava Rao was appointed Plague Commissioner without prejudice to his duties as Inspector-General of Police. Raised to a position of great responsibility at the time when the whole country was writhing under this dire visitation, Mr. Madhava Rao proved himself equal to the calls of the situation, and earned the gratitude of all classes of the community by his vigorous but sympathetic campaign against the plague. The Government marked their appreciation of his services by conferring the title of C. I. E. on him and awarding the Kaiser-i-Hind gold medal. It was at his suggestion that many people quitted their old residences and built houses on sanitary principles outside the city. In addition to disinfection and inoculation which he popularised with a view to stamp out the disease, he made two

large extensions to the Bangalore city and removed the congestion. In 1898 he was made a Councillor, and his promotion was hailed by all classes as a fitting recognition of his services. The new office gave him opportunities for the exercise and display of his statesmanship. Soon after the installation of the present Maharajah of Mysore, he was appointed Revenue Commissioner in addition to his duties as Councillor. Laboriously, patiently, and most conscientiously, he strove to systematize the work of this important branch of the administration and placed it on a very efficient basis. Before the reorganization of the Revenue Department had come to a close, Mr. Madhava Rao was honoured with the premiership of Travancore.

Soon after his assumption of this high office, he set himself to the task of reorganizing the Settlement Department. He abolished the obnoxious system of levying heavy fines on Service Inam lands, and had the irregular system of accounts and finance put in order by a financial expert, and introduced the system of daily audit. He started the Srimulam Popular Assembly which is doing immense good to the subjects of Travancore. He organized the Excise Department which now yields an annual income of forty-five lakhs of rupees. He introduced free primary education, for which the Travancoreans cannot be sufficiently grateful to him. He put a stop to the abuse and extravagance in the management of temples and feeding houses. It was at his instance that the Maharajah abolished the rooted custom of looking down upon the lower classes and non-Hindus as polluters of temples and tanks and levying heavy fines on them. He conferred a great boon on the ryot population by abolishing taxation in kind. While devising means to carry out many other salutary reforms in Travancore, he was called away in March 1906 by H.H. the Maharajah of Mysore to accept the Dewanship of his State.

Eminently courteous in his manners, an admirable man of business, on good terms with all communities in the Travancore State, seriously abstaining from doing anything that would give even the appearance of offence, Mr. Madhava Rao soon grew to be not only a personage but a power.

When Sir P. N. Krishna Murthi, the Dewan, retired, the Maharajah of Mysore regarded Mr. Madhava Rao as pre-eminently the man for the place. With an obedience which is the cardinal virtue of his life, and with an unfaltering purpose to give to the new office the benefits of his years of experience, he resumed the burden of office in the Mysore State amidst the acclamation of all classes of people. He was at the helm of the administration for three years, during which period the machinery of the government was overhauled. The Civil Service was

reorganized; a Legislative Council for making Laws and Regulations was instituted; the District work was remodelled; the Executive and Judicial functions were separated in some districts; special rules were framed for the selection and training of Amildars, Revenue and Judicial Probationers, Revenue Inspectors and Village Accountants. He appointed Veterinary Inspectors and encouraged the publication of a vernacular fortnightly gazette for the enlightenment of the village officers and the ryot population. He popularised cattle shows and agricultural exhibitions and in course of time replaced the old Agricultural Banks by Co-operative Credit Societies on the British Indian system, and encouraged minor irrigation schemes.

The Financial Department underwent a thorough change. The Comptroller was appointed *ex-officio* Financial Secretary to Government, and the Office of Examiner of Public Works was amalgamated with that of the Comptroller. A Famine Reserve Fund was created in 1906-7 without dislocating the finances of the State, and every year a sum of two lakhs of rupees is being added to it. A Retrenchment Committee, consisting of two Members of Council, was appointed in 1906 to consider and suggest reductions in expenditure in the administration. The minimum salary of village schoolmasters was fixed at Rupees ten. Elementary education was made free in rural parts. Technical and Industrial schools were opened at convenient centres. Foreign research scholarships were introduced in 1907. Teaching in practical agriculture was encouraged in Anglo-Vernacular schools, and Kindergarten and manual instruction were introduced under expert guidance. The State Colleges in Mysore and Bangalore were reorganized to enable them to meet the requirements of the New University Regulations. The extension of Local Self-Government received considerable attention from Mr. Madhava Rao. He was instrumental in giving a pure water-supply to the important towns of Shimoga and Harihar. He was the first to recognize the claims of outlying stations to have their requirements in the way of drainage and water-supply attended to equally with those of the capital cities. A scheme for the improvement of the famous place of pilgrimage, Melkote, was passed. It was during his Dewanship that the long-standing question of the Department of Public Health assumed a practical shape, and a regularly organized Department with a staff of Sanitary officers for the Districts and Taluks under the control of a Sanitary Commissioner was brought into existence. This has demonstrated its usefulness by the good work it has turned out. Indigenous medicine received support, and a College for teaching Ayurvedic medicine was established in Mysore. The third installation of the Cauvery Power Scheme, cost the sum of

Rs. 12,00,831. Electric light to the Civil and Military Station, Bangalore, was supplied and formally inaugurated on the 1st January 1906.

With a view to prevent the repeated thefts of gold in the various mines of the State, he introduced the Mysore Mines Regulation of 1906. This was based on the Acts passed in the gold mining countries of Australia and South Africa. It must be noted, however, that he was only responsible for publishing the Regulation, the Act having been passed during the previous regime. The Newspaper Regulation is another measure of his that has been adversely criticised. It is admitted that certain portions of it need revision, and the Dewan had it revised in accordance with an assurance given by him in the Representative Assembly; but his period of service terminated before he could carry out his promise. The Maharajah, however, seemed to think that no change in the Act was necessary, and he told the Viceroy in 1909 that no amendment would be made in the Act. Mr. Madhava Rao was instrumental in abolishing the export duty on arecanut which meant a loss of revenue to the extent of four lakhs of rupees in the Malnad, and in reducing the assessment on arecanut gardens to the extent of nearly 50 per cent. These two measures have given immense relief to the growers of arecanut, and there are already signs of revival of the arecanut industry and of the return of prosperity to the Malnad.

When he retired from the office of Dewan, the ready acknowledgment of his claims on the gratitude of the country and the unanimous recognition of his sterling worth by all parties as well as the opinions expressed by the press at large, showed that Mr. Madhava Rao had discharged with credit to himself and satisfaction to the public the duties of the highest position in one of the most advanced States of the Empire.

After retirement he travelled widely in India and studied the conditions obtaining in different parts of the Empire. He helped His Holiness the late Jagadguru of Sringeri in founding the Sanskrit Institute in Bangalore. A movement was set on foot to make it the centre for combining in the study of Sanskrit, the Pandit method with the critical method of the Western nations. He presided over the Tanjore District Conference held at Shiyali in 1913. His address, which contained a vigorous attack on the Land Policy of the British Government in ryotwari tracts, created some sensation. He is strongly of opinion that instruction in non-language subjects should be imparted through the medium of the vernaculars and, to facilitate this, he advocates the redistribution of the various provinces on a linguistic basis. While engaged in

promoting public measures of this kind, His Highness the Maharajah Gaekwar of Baroda invited him to take up the Dewanship of his State in 1914.

In consideration of the valuable services rendered to the State by his Minister, Mr. V. P. Madhava Rao, C.I.E., His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda has ordered a statue of him to be made and located in the Palace Durbar Hall. The order for the statue has been placed in the hands of an Edinburgh sculptor.

Mr. Madhava Rao is a man of wide culture, progressive in his ways, but averse to all violent departure from the ancient religious and social system of India, which is, in his opinion, unrivalled as a scheme for securing the happiness of man here below and in his future existence.

Mr. Madhava Rao, C.I.E., has had a phenomenal career, but those who admire his genius are confident that the limit of his capabilities has not yet been reached and that his experience will be of great benefit to Baroda which has already achieved under its capable Ruler the distinction of being the foremost Native State in India.



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NOTABILITIES

Sri Bhairava Ramachandra Durai Rajah:—This nobleman is a brother of His Highness the Rajah of Pudukkottai. He was brought up with his brother and is well educated. He now holds the position of Military Secretary to His Highness. He is a very popular official of the Pudukkottai Durbar.

Mr. O. Vijayaranga Mudaliyar:—This gentleman is an Executive Engineer in the Irrigation Branch of His Highness the Nizam's Public Works Department. He is a native of Chittoor, in the North Arcot District, Madras Presidency. He is a highly respected official of H. H. the Nizam's Government. He resides in Secunderabad, where he is very popular.

Mr. Promoderanjan Bhattacharjee, B.A.:—He was born on the 10th March 1884 and graduated B.A. in 1904 from the University of Calcutta. He entered the Tipperah State service in 1907 and held the following positions :—(1) Assistant Magistrate-Collector ; (2) Officer-in-charge, Accounts Department ; (3) Personal Assistant to the Minister; and (4) Divisional Officer of Udaipur, Dharmanagar and Khowai Divisions. He is now employed as the Divisional Officer of Kailasahar.

Lala Babu Lal:—He is now Collector, Kapurthala State. He was born on the 19th August 1872. His family has been in the service of the State for the last four generations. He served the British Government for ten years in various capacities. He entered the Kapurthala State service in 1901 as Inspector in Oudh, and was transferred to Punjab in 1906 as Tahsildar. He served in Phagwara and Dhilwan Tahsils, and his service as Collector counts a little over five years.

Babu Amarendra Nath Sarcar, B.L.:—He belongs to a respectable Kayastha family of Ranaghat, Nadea. He graduated with honours in English from the St. Xavier's College, Calcutta, in 1908. He was appointed Secretary, Sonpur Feudatory State, in 1911. He possesses judicial powers, civil of a Subordinate Judge, and criminal of an Assistant Sessions Judge. As a man of three and thirty summers he has many years of useful and distinguished service before him.

Babu Jagannath Prasad :—This gentleman is an able and experienced Officer of the Chhatarpur State in Central India, and has served it with integrity for about a quarter of a century. He officiated as Dewan on several occasions and worked as the Nazim and First Class Magistrate for four years. He is now the Head Accountant of the Durbar with first class magisterial powers. His popularity among the general public is quite manifest from the fact that he has been elected as the Municipal Chairman for four years successively.

Mr. Krishnaji Balvant Moghe :—He joined the Jamkhandi State as Diwan in February 1918. He is a pensioner of the British Government. He joined the British service in May 1878 in the Belgaum Collector's office. He was made Mamlatdar in 1890. He served as Mamlatdar and Chitnis in Kanara, Bijapur, and Dharwar till 1899, when he was promoted to a Deputy Collectorship. He served as Huzur and District Deputy Collector in Dharwar, Kanara, Belgaum, and Bijapur, and as Assistant to the Commissioner, Southern Division. He retired in 1911 as fourth grade Deputy Collector.

Commanding Colonel Bahadur Jung Rana :—He was born on the 29th October 1864 and is the third son of the late General Bakhat Jung Bahadur Rana, who fought two great battles, captured the Kuti Fort in the Tibetan war and reached Lucknow in victory during the Mutiny of 1857. Commanding Colonel Bahadur Jung Rana was the Representative of the Government of Nepal in Calcutta during the viceroyalty of Lords Dufferin and Lansdowne. He again held the same office from the regime of Lord Minto to that of Lord Hardinge. He was one of the invited guests at the Delhi Coronation Durbar of 1911 and was seated in the Foreign Consul General's Block.

Mr. Syed Ameer Hasan :—He was born on the 23rd August 1850. He comes of a very noble family of the Mysore State. His ancestors held very distinguished positions both in British India and in Mysore. He retired in 1907 as a Senior Assistant Commissioner, after having served the State for a period of thirty-four years, all along earning the golden opinion of the Government. His leading position among his co-religionists, his vast experience gained in the different departments of the State service, were availed of by the Mysore Durbar in nominating him a member of the Mysore Legislative Council soon after his retirement, and he has been a member ever since.

Mr. Sarabhai Valabhai Majumdar, B.A., LL.B. :—He was born in 1861 and commenced his College career at Baroda, where he won one of the merit scholarships. He joined the Baroda State service as Sub-Judge in 1889. He was the first Sub-Judge who was given the powers of a first-class Magistrate in 1890 with a view to separate the judicial from the executive functions of the State officers. It was desired by His Highness the Maharajah Saheb that works on Law might be compiled in Gujarati. Mr. Sarabhai was asked to compile a work on Mahomedan Law. Its rapid sale proves the popular appreciation of the work. He is now District Judge at Navsari.

Mr. M. N. Khory, B.A., LL.B. :—He is the son of the late Khan Bahadur N. M. Khory, Administrator of the Dhar State. He is a graduate in Law of the Bombay University. He commenced his career as a Munsiff and First-Class Magistrate in the Baroda State, where he made himself much popular during the short period of four years, and his conscientious, hard and honest work was greatly appreciated by the heads of the department. In recognition of his abilities, he was last given the most onerous post of Baroda City Munsiff, where, as a rule, only competent senior officers are appointed. Now he is holding the responsible post of Judicial Member, Advisory Council, in the Dhar State

Pandit Govind Ganesh Vaidya:—He was born in 1864. He received his education in the Maharajah Holkar's Engineering Class, Indore. For some years he was at Dewas in charge of the Dewas Guest House, which work he did to the entire satisfaction of his superiors. He was then appointed as a Draftsman in the Narsingarh State. By his careful and honest work, he got himself raised to higher grades. He is at present working in the capacity of State Engineer. Almost all the roads and buildings are constructed under his supervision and management. He has completed nearly seventeen years' service in the State. He is hard working, intelligent, straightforward, and a very useful public servant.

Kumar Shree Bharat Singhji :—Dewan of the Barwani State in Central India, he is the son of Thakur Sahib Madhedsinghji, Talukdar of Heral in the Panchmahals, Bombay Presidency. He belongs to the famous clan of Chauhan Rajputs and is a descendant of the Devgad-Baria house in the Rewa Kantha Agency. He is a cousin of H. H. the Rana Sahib of Barwani. He was educated in the Daly College, Indore, with His Highness. After leaving the College, he worked as *Honorary Magistrate* and *afterwards remained at Ajmer* for sometime as His Highness's companion. In 1909 he was appointed Superintendent of the Barwani State. The following year when His Highness was invested with full powers, Kumar Shree Bharat Singhji became Dewan, which position he still holds.

Sardar Ramrao Govind Pandit :—This venerable gentleman, aged eighty-three, is a Sardar of Dewas in Central India. The title of *Sardar* was granted to him by the Ruling Chief of Dewas (Senior Branch), when the latter was conferred the distinction of K. C. S. I. by the Government of India. He is given a jaghir by the Dewas States, Senior and Junior. In recognition of the Sardar's services for half a century, H. H. the Rajah of Dewas (Senior Branch) presented him with a medal at a Durbar of the State. He rendered meritorious service during the Mutiny of 1857. Himself and his brother receive pension *from the Senior Branch of the Dewas State. He has a son* who is serving in the Senior Branch of Dewas. His brother, Mr. L. G. Pandit, was the Kamavisdar of a Mahal of the Principality.

Rai Bahadur Munshi Balmukand :—Born in 1867, he is the Sar Sooba of Malwa in Gwalior. He is a native of Gwalior and his family have lived there for five generations. He was first employed as a Surveyor in the construction of the State Palace and was afterwards appointed Superintendent in the Irrigation Department. In 1897 he was made Sooba. In recognition of his services during the famine in that year, the British Government conferred on him the title of *Rai Bahadur* in 1898. He became the Sar Sooba of Malwa in 1910. He knows English, Persian, Hindi, and Mahratti, and is acquainted with Engineering. He is very popular with the officials as well as with the public at large. The family is well known for its steady loyalty both to the British Government as well as to the Gwalior Durbar.

Mr. Motibhai Bhikhabhai Patel :—He was born in 1865. He is the Executive Engineer, Navsari District, Baroda. He began his English study at the late age of seventeen. Leaving the Baroda College, he joined the Victoria Technical Institute, Bombay, as a Baroda Scholar, and obtained the diploma of Licentiate of Mechanical Engineering, and entered service in Kala-Bhavan, Baroda. From there he was sent by H. H. the Maharaja Gaekwar for further study in Europe. During his three years' stay there, he apprenticed himself at the works of Messrs. Hick, Hargreaves & Co., Bolton, obtained a diploma in honours in Mechanical Engineering, won Ashbury Exhibition in Civil Engineering at the Owen's College, coming first in the first class, and was elected an Associate Member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

Mr. Maniram Rupsing Chavan, L.C.E. :—He is the son of the late Sardar Bahadoor Rupsing, Risaldar Major of the 2nd Bombay Lancers and A. D. C. to H. E. the Governor of Bombay. He has been in the service of the Baroda State for the last twenty-five years. In the beginning he was employed in the Khangi Department. After he had gained good experience, His Highness was pleased to appoint him as Faraskhana *Kamdar* on 11-7-1898, and he was given Naib Khangi Karbhari's powers in 1906-7. He also works as Executive Engineer, Palace Division. He was deputed as a Camp Officer on the occasions of the Delhi Coronation Durbars of 1902 and 1912, and as a token of the satisfactory work done by him, was awarded a silver medal by the Government of India.

Sirdar Amar Singh :—He is the Dewan of the Patiala State. He is descended directly from the well-known high family of Dewan Jawahar Singh of Mahitpur in the Jullundur District. His father, Sirdar Dalip Singh, was an E.A.C. of high repute in the Government service. He married the daughter of Kanwar Bikram Singh Bahadur, C. S. I., of Kapurthala, and is thus connected with the ruling family of the Kapurthala State. The family is one of the best liked families in the State. His eldest son, Sirdar Amrik Singh, holds the high post of Deputy Inspector-General of Police in the Patiala State. Both

father and son have been popular officers throughout. His younger sons, Amarjit Singh, Amarindarjit Singh, and Amardip Singh, with his grandson, Amirjit Singh, are being educated.

Mr. Domonji N. Khory:--A Zorastrian, who is the Naib Dewan of the Barwani State, in Central India, is the son of the late Khan Bahadur Khory, the most renowned lawyer of Central India. He joined service as Assistant Superintendent, Barwani, from where he was transferred to the Dhar State as Superintendent, Court of Wards. During his stay of three years in the Court of Wards, the whole Department was reorganised and many reforms were introduced. He was then transferred to the Revenue Department and worked as Revenue Officer of Kuksi and Dharampuri Parganas for four years. The excellent work that he carried out in the last famine was highly appreciated by His Highness Sir Udaji Rao Puar, K. C. S. I., the Rajah of Dhar. In 1918 he was appointed Naib Dewan and Revenue Secretary of the Barwani State, which post he still holds.

Vazier Brojo Krishna Deva Varma:--He is a Judge, Khas Adalat (or the Chief Court) of the Tippera State. He became Vazier after the death of his father, the late *Gopi Krishna Deva Varma*, Vazier and Prime Minister to the late Maharajah, Radha Kishore Manikya Bahadur, whose good services are well known and very highly appreciated. He attended the Delhi Durbar of 1911 as one of His Highness's suite and was awarded a Durbar Medal. This family has been holding the post of Vazier for nearly seven generations, and owns extensive zamindaries in the neighbouring British territory. His grandfather, Vazier Sib Joy Deva Varma, rendered valuable help to the Government during the Mutiny of 1857, and his services were recognised by the Bengal Government and by the Commissioner of Dacca. This family is connected with the Raj family by matrimonial alliances.

Mr. Harilal Mansukhram Parekh, Diwan, Baria State:--He was born *in Nadiad in 1850. At the outset of his career he joined the* Gondal State, where ere long he became Chief Judge. His name is a byword there for probity and conscientiousness. Since 1880 he is almost uninterruptedly the Chief Minister of the Baria State. Fortune has singularly blessed him with the unreserved confidence of his masters and the Agency Officers. His services to the State are memorable and unique. During his role of office the State has progressed in all directions. His uniform courtesy, simplicity, and suavity of manners, upright and stainless character, and burning zeal for the people's good, have permanently won for him their gratitude, affection, and respect. He has generously endowed two hospitals fittingly named after him and his wife, Surajbai.

Maharaol Shri Raisinhji Chandrasinhji,:—He is a cousin of H. H. the Maharajah Sahib Fateh Sinhji of Chhota-Udaipur and grandson of *H. H. the late Jitsinhji,* and a scion of the Chauhan dynasty. He is now thirty-three years old. He received his education in the Grasia College at Wadhwan in Kathiawar. Afterwards he joined the Imperial Cadet Corps at Dehra Dun and remained there for a couple of years. The Commandant of the Corps was pleased to award him a certificate of good moral character, and he is privileged to wear a uniform of the corps. He then entered British service as Police Inspector and served for five years in that capacity at Surat and other places. After he resigned that post, H. H. the Maharajah Sahib of Chhota-Udaipur made him Police Superintendent of the State, which office he still holds.

Mr. Shiva Das Budhiraja, M.A. :—Son of Dr. Agia Ram, he was born in 1875 at Miani (Shahpur, Punjab). He passed his M. A in 1898 from the Government College, Lahore, and was awarded the Arnold Gold medal for heading the list of passes throughout the Province, and a purse of Rs. 100 for standing first in English. Passing the Pleader's Examination in 1898 he practised as a lawyer for five years. He was appointed Personal Assistant to the Revenue Minister, Kashmir, in February 1905. He became Secretary to His Highness the Maharajah Sahib Bahadur on the 25th March 1909. He was pro*moted to the judicial line as Sub-Judge on the 1st February 1910. He* officiated as Chief Judge, Kashmir, at Rs. 800 a month, in November 1910. He reverted after nine months making way for a senior in service. He is now Sub-Judge of Mirpur, first grade, on a salary of Rs. 500 per mensem.

Mr. B. E. Muthu Ramappa Nayanivaru :—This gentleman is the brother of the Zamindar of Bangaripaliem. He holds the respectable post of Dewan of that ancient estate. He was born in 1868. He read English for a few years and discontinued his studies in 1871. He commenced his studies again in 1880, when he joined the Government High School, Chittoor. He passed the Matriculation Examination in 1884. Shortly afterwards he got a place in the Revenue Department of the Chittoor Collectorate and passed the Handwriting, Revenue and Criminal Test examinations. He resigned his appointment as he was transferred to some other place, and as he could not take his aged mother with him. Since then he has served, with much credit, in the estate of his brother, as Dewan. He is the first among his class—Palavyakulapattabadras—to receive decent English education and to pass a University Examination.

Lieutenant-Colonel Maharaj Sri Bhairun Singhji Bahadur:—*He is the son of Maharaj Sri Khet Singhji Sahib and cousin of Colonel His* Highness the Maharajah of Bikaner G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., A.D.C., LL.D. He was born in September 1879. He was educated at the Mayo College, Ajmer, from November 1891 to September 1895. In 1898 he was appointed a Member of the State Council and in 1904 Secretary to the Political and Foreign Departments. He is

now Vice-President and Political Member of the State Council. He was temporarily appointed President of the Council during His Highness's visit to England, and again in 1914-15 when His Highness proceeded to Europe for an active service in the war, he carried on the administration of the State. He *received the Delhi Durbar and Coronation Durbar Medals* and was *created a* C. S. I. on the 1st of January 1909.

Dr. S. Krishnamurti Aiyar:- He is the Sanitary Commissioner, Travancore State. After he took the M. B. & C. M. Degree of Madras, he was entertained as an assistant Surgeon in the Madras Medical Service in 1895. His services there were chiefly employed in Plague and other Sanitary duties. His Plague work at Vaniyambadi and Bellary, when the disease raged there in 1900 and 1902 respectively, was appreciated both by the Government and by the public who presented him with a gold medal. He was selected by Col. King, Sanitary Commissioner, Madras, as his First Personal Assistant, and while he was so employed, he was appointed Sanitary Commissioner of Travancore, in 1903. His steady, successful, and silent administration has contributed not a little to the satisfactory state of public health, as testified to in the last Census Report of the State.

Mr. A. R. Venkateswara Iyer:- Son of Mr. V. Ramakrishna Iyer, an eminent lawyer of the Trichur District Court, he was born at Nadavaramba, Cochin State, in 1041 M. E. The youth had a distinguished educational career in the Ernakulam College and was a prize winner in almost all the classes. He passed the F.A. Examination in 1888 and the vernacular branch of the B. A. as a private candidate in 1900. He entered service as a clerk in the Huzur Office in 1069 M. E. While there, he passed several British Special Tests. He was made Tahsildar and second-class Magistrate in 1076, in which capacity he served for over twelve years in all the Taluks of the State. He acted for a short period as Sarvadhikariakar to H. H. the Rajah. He was made Special Settlement Officer in connection with the Survey and Settlement operations of the Devaswom lands of the State, and after two years he was posted as Superintendent of Registration, which appointment he now holds.

Mehta Bakhtawar Mal:—He was born on the 10th March 1872. He comes of an old Raj Official (Mutsadi) family. He has held many important offices. He was the right hand man of the late Rao Bahadur Hardyal Singh when the re-organisation of Jodhpur State took place in Colonel Powlett's time. He was President of the first Jain Conference. He is an able and experienced Desi official. The Durbar selected him as one of the chief State officials at the Delhi Durbar. His Highness the Maharajah Sir Pratap Singh, Regent of the Marwar State, took him on special duty to Calcutta at the time of His Imperial Majesty's visit to that place. At present he is working as Superintendent of the Court of Wards. He is one of the few men that enjoy

the entire confidence of Sir Pratap. On account of his hospitable disposition and of his influential position in the State, he is held in high-esteem by many prominent men in British India.

Mr. B. Narayan Das, B.A., S.C.:—He is the Head Master of the Lyall Collegiate School, Balrampur. He was born on the 7th May 1878. He belongs to the Batham Vaishya caste and is a resident of Shahjahanpur. He obtained the diploma of Senior Certificated Teacher in 1897 and took his B.A degree of the Allahabad University in 1902. He entered the Educational Department as an Assistant Master in 1897, and after six years' Government service, was deputed to Balrampur as Head Master on the 1st July 1903. During his incumbency, the school has made a phenomenal progress all round, and his services have ever received appreciation from the Maharajah, H. H. the Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces, and officers of the Educational Department. He takes a keen interest in public matters, started the local Girls' School—now a flourishing institution— and is Vice-President of its managing committee. He is a Municipal Commissioner and Member-in-charge of the local Municipal Schools.

Babu Chatur Bhuj, D. D. R.:—He is the Superintendent of Forests, Marwar State, Jodhpur. He was born in Samwat 1934 Asadh 15th. He is a descendant of a family of Gahlots, that had originally settled at Pipar as agriculturists and gardeners and lately at Jodhpur. He had his education at Durbar High School and Jaswant College, Jodhpur. Deputed by Jodhpur Durbar for training at the Imperial Forest College, Dehradun, he passed creditably, standing third with Sylviculture Medal in 1897, and joined the Forest service as Ranger. His work was highly spoken of throughout. He worked as First Assistant Conservator, Gwalior State, from 1909 to 1910, and was specially appointed as Inspector of Forests and Industries. He was soon raised to the post of Superintendentship (Conservatorship) of Jodhpur State Forests in 1911. Under him the Department has worked very successfully, developing greatly the revenues, resources and general organisation. He takes special interest in economic products and industries.

Munshi Ram Dayal:—He is a Kayastha, Saksena Dusre, of the United Provinces, and follows the tenets of Sanatan Dharma in religion. He served the Sirmoor State, Punjab, in the Account Department, from 1885 to 1900. He then joined the Jaora State service as Sarishtedar to the Minister. In 1905 he was appointed Accountant-General, in which office he still continues. He has been holding the post of Financial Secretary to His Highness the Nawab since May 1911. He sits in the State Council as Finance Member. The State Press also works under his superintendence. He is a sincere and strenuous worker. His faithful services have met with appreciation from both the States, and his

agreeable manners and obliging nature have won him popularity. He was fifty years of age on the 12th August 1915. He has two sons; the elder, Mr. Jai Dayal, B.A., is serving as Mir Munshi in the Jaora State; and the younger, Mr. Sukh Dayal, M.A., LL.B., is practising as a lawyer in the United Provinces.

Munshi Kashi Prasada:- He is Tehsildar, Sadar Tehsil, Chhatarpur State, Central India. His father also worked there as Tehsildar. In recognition of his good services as a Munsarim, he was promoted to the post of Tehsildar and invested with second-class magisterial powers. His work has always been highly spoken of by the authorities. He belongs to a respectable Kayastha family. He is now forty-two years of age and has put in twenty-three years' service in the State. Pt. Shyam Behari Misra, M.A., M.R.A.S., the late Dewan of the State, on his reversion to the U. P. Government, gave Munshi Kashi Prasada the following certificate :—" Mr. Kashi Prasada served as the Tehsildar of Rajnagar and later on of Chhatarpur for over four years while I was the Dewan of the Chhatarpur State from July 1910 to September 1914. I can safely testify to his great abilities and experience. His work was uniformly almost the best of all the Tehsildars in the State, and he knows how to carry out any duty entrusted to him. I was always thoroughly pleased with him and his work, and I am positively of the opinion that he is quite fit for higher responsibilities. I wish him all success."

Maulavi Bashiruddin Ahmad: Collector of the Raichur District, he is the son of Shams-ul-Ulama Dr. Maulavi Hafiz Nazir Ahmad Khan Bahadur, LL.D (Edin), D. O. L. of Delhi, one of the most famous literary men that India has produced. As a well-known Deputy Collector of the United Provinces, the services of Maulavi Nazir Ahmad were borrowed from the Imperial Government by Sir Salar Jung the Great. The Maulavi was a Member of the Board of Revenue and retired on a well earned pension. His only son is the subject of this sketch. Mr. Bashir has compiled several books for the use of the fair sex and has translated into Urdu the whole set of Dr. Sylvanus Stall's *Self and Sex* series. He entered the service of His Highness the Nizam as an Assistant Collector and, by his uprightness, has risen to the responsible post of a First Talukdar or Collector. As an able Talukdar of His Highness the Nizam's Government, he is known all over the State for his probity, sound judgment, and moral courage.

Khan Sahib Shaikh Imam Din Khan:—He is the Superintendent of Police, Jammu Province. He is descended from the Garyouk Rajput dynasty. His ancestors rendered meritorious services to the British Government during the Mutiny of 1857. He has been in the service of the Kashmir State for the last thirty three years both as Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent of Police. The title of *Khan Sahib* was conferred on him at the Delhi Durbar of 1903. He holds extensive landed estates in the Shahpore and Gujranwala Districts. His brother, Gulam Mohi-ud-din Khan Bahadur, was an

Extra Assistant on *the Afghanistan Frontier*, where he won an honourable repute for himself. He ended his career as a member of the Council of the Jammu and Kashmir State. Khan Sahib Shaikh Imam Din Khan draws a salary of Rs. 400 as Superintendent of Police. Of his sons, Mr. Nizam-ud-din is an Inspector in the Punjab Police; Dr. Mohammed Alam, LL. D., Barrister-at-Law, is practising as a lawyer in the Punjab; and Aziz-ud-din Khan Mohamed Akbar Khan is in the Kashmir State Police. This family is well known for its unswerving loyalty to the British Government.

Mr. Fulchand Dahyabhai Parekh, L. C. E.:—Born of a Nagarshett family of Rajkot in Kathiawar, he was educated in the Science College, Poona, whence he graduated in 1891. Having served in Bombay and Rajkot for a short period of about five years, he was placed under Mr. Benson in the Porbander State On Mr. Benson's retirement, Mr Parekh stepped into his shoes as a State Engineer and built for the Rana Sahib magnificent palaces, sea works, and other public works of rare designs and magnitude. At the Durbar of 1902, he built a fitting camp at Delhi for the late Rana Sahib. In 1907 Maharajah Ranjitsinhji on seeing the palatial buildings at Porbander was pleased to take their builder, Mr. Fulchand, with him to Jamnagar on his accession to the *gadi* of the Nawanagar State. He has been in the service of the Jam Saheb for the last eight years and has erected palaces and other works of rare importance, and magnificence. The architecture of the palaces is admired by His Highness and also by the public. The spacious Nawanagar camp at the last Coronation Durbar, the favourite haunt of many a European guest, was Mr. Fulchand's work.

Mr. L. Raj Kanwar, M.A. :—Born at Panipat on the 31st March 1882, he is in the bloom of his life. He belongs to an influential and highly educated Agarwal family of that place. He was educated at the Forman Christian and Law Colleges, Lahore. He had a brilliant academic career and occupied the highest place in the M. A Degree Examination of the Punjab University in 1902, winning Arnold Gold Medal and Denzil Ibbetson Gulab Singh Prize Purse. Later on he also passed with credit the Preliminary Examination in Law as well as the Departmental Examinations in Civil and Criminal Law, Revenue, Treasury, and Local Funds. In September 1908, he was appointed District Judge's Court Clerk, and in October 1908 he became Deputy Commissioner's Head Clerk. In November 1911, he was made a Munsiff, and in January 1918 his services were lent to the Gwalior Durbar for employment as Personal Assistant to the Settlement Commissioner, but His Highness has recently appointed him Under Secretary in the Political Department. He is fond of literary pursuits, and is at present engaged in collecting and sorting choice extracts both in prose and verse from the best writers of the world.

Mirza Ghulam Mustafa :—This Zamindar, Rais, and Deputy Commissioner of Southern Kashmir comes of a very respectable family. In 1050 his ancestor, Mirza Qasim Beg Moghal, settled in Kashmir. His grandfather, Mirza Abad Beg, was an Imperial Government servant. Other members of the family took service in the Kashmir State. Mirza Ghulam Mustafa entered the State service in 1882. He served honestly and honourably and to the satisfaction of both the public and the Durbar in various capacities as Sub Judge, Atsar-i-Tasli Baqaya, Tahsildar, Musahib-Durbar, Assistant Governor and Deputy Commissioner. When the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, Lords Kitchener, Minto, and Hardinge, visited the valley, he was deputed on special duty to make the necessary arrangements. His services were highly appreciated on all these occasions. He is now Deputy Commissioner of Southern Kashmir. He was invited to the Delhi Durbar of 1911 as a representative Rais, Zamindar, and high official of the State.

Babu H. L. Mukherji, B.L. :—He is the retired Chief Judge of the Tipperah State. After passing the B.L. Examination from the Presidency College, Calcutta, in 1879, he joined the District Court Bar at Alipore, Twenty-Four Parganahs. He was appointed Munsiff in 1884 and retired from the service of the British Government in 1910. During his service as a Subordinate Judge at Comilla, the British head-quarters of the Tipperah District, he had to decide various sorts of cases arising out of the Zamindari of Chakla Rosanabad, appertaining to the Raj, and made such a favourable impression on the authorities and the general public with his high abilities as a judicial officer that all classes of people, high and low, honoured him with various sorts of reception on his retirement. Indeed, on account of his efficient services the Government retained him in service by granting him three extensions after he had attained the age of fifty-five years. The Minister of the Tipperah State being well acquainted with his merits appointed him Chief Judge of the Khas Adalat in 1911.

Pundit G. N. Shastree, M.A. : He was born in 1875. He belongs to the Shokwal community of the Gauda Brahmins. His father and grandfather were celebrated Pundits and physicians attached to the Court of Dewas for generations past. Mr. Shastree took his B A. Degree of the Calcutta University from the Holkar College, Indore, in 1897 and his M.A. in English literature from the Muir Central College, Allahabad, in 1899, ranking first in that College and second in the University. He was Superintendent of State Education, Dewas, Central India, for about sixteen years. Under his fostering care and capable management, education in all its branches made a marked progress in the States of Dewas, and the special feature of Mr. Shastree's work was the very keen interest he took in the moral and religious education and in the formation of

character of the rising generation entrusted to his care. In short, he loved his students, and they, in their turn, loved and respected him. He is now Private Secretary to H. H. the Rajah Sahib of Dewas (Senior). Mr. Shastree's writings and speeches always command general appreciation.

Colonel Dawarka Nath Upadhya:—*He is the Retired Adjutant-General* of the Kashmir State army. In 1864 the late Maharajah Ranbhir Singh sent for Pandit Dawarka Nath Upadhya from Benares to translate from English into Sanskrit the books relating to Military Drill and Regulation and to discipline the State troops like those in the British service. This he carried out to the entire satisfaction of the Maharajah Sahib, who granted him the rank of Colonel in his bodyguard regiment and put the Military Press and the Military School under his supervision. After the death of Maharajah Ranbir Singh, his services were transferred to the Civil Department and was made Officer in charge of the State Treasury. On the occasion of the reorganization of the Durbar he was made Adjutant-General in the State army, in which capacity he served six years and retired in 1897. On his departure from the State, the late Rajah Ram Singh, Commander-in-Chief of the State Army, with all the other Military Officers, accompanied him to the Railway Station and granted him a khillat and a certificate. *His son, Major Bishwa Nath Upadhya, holds the post* of the Second in Command in the 8th Kashmir Rifles.

Nawab Rafat Yar Jung Bahadur:—Collector and Magistrate of the Warangal District, H. H. the Nizam's Dominions, he was born on the 8th April 1869. He is the son of the late Nawab Rafat Yar Jung, a well-known educationist, reformer, and statesman. He received an excellent English education and is proficient in Persian and Arabic. During his sojourn in England, he, by his splendid conduct and gentlemanly demeanour, secured general regard and good-will. He was appointed a Secretary to the Arabic and Islam section of the International Congress of Orientalists held in London in 1891, and obtained a certificate of approval for service rendered. He was presented to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress Victoria at St. James's Palace, He entered the service of H. H. the Nizam in 1894. He is thoroughly loyal. *He is a firm administrator, an enthusiastic advocate of education, and a* zealous upholder of local industries. He started an Art-Industrial school and saved the famous Bidri work from extinction. As Collector and Magistrate, he has been very popular and is highly esteemed by all.

Rai Bahadur Arcot Sreenivasa Charlu:—He was born at Arcot in 1842. He was educated at Pachiappa's College, Madras. He first entered Government service as Examiner, Inam Commissioner's Office, under Mr. George Noble Taylor, the first Inam Commissioner. Then he was employed in the Revenue Department under Collectors, such as Messrs. W. S. Whiteside, O. B. Irvin and William Frederick Hathaway. Having had a taste for Law, he qualified himself for the legal profession by passing the necessary examinations,

when in the Revenue Department. He resigned the Madras service and joined the Mysore Bar in 1867. He practised in the Mysore Chief Court for fifteen years. In appreciation of his public services, he was appointed Honorary Vice-President, Bangalore City Municipality, which he held for nearly seven years. In recognition of his services as such, he was conferred the title of *Rai Bahadur* in 1887 by the Government of India. He was appointed Under-Secretary to the Mysore Government in 1890, and was made Muzroy Superintendent and Secretary to Government in that Department in 1892. In addition to this appointment, he also held the combined office of Inspector-General of Registration and Registrar of Joint Stock Companies until his retirement in 1901.

Mr. Gudipaty Venkata Ratnam Pantulu :—This gentleman comes of a respectable Brahmin family and is the Muktyar Agent of the Zamindar of Borrampalem and Vegavaram estates, Krishna District. He lives at Masulipatam, the headquarters of the District, a few miles away from the Zamindar's residence at Guraza. He is a young man of active habits, and since 1901 when he joined the Zamindar's service, he has evinced much tact and ability in his business and has thus won the utmost confidence of the Zamindar. He is a son of Mr. Gudipaty Kondam Razu Pantulu who had served in the estate for several years and had the good fortune of being the trusted Agent of the present Zamindar's revered father. The Agent's family has been known to that of the Zamindar's for several generations, and as a result of the Agent's loyalty and earnest co-operation, the Zamindar takes pride in seeing that his Agent is in affluent circumstances and does not grudge to help him in every way he can. Though both the Zamindar and his Agent happen to be young—not more than thirty years old—they are quite free from the weaknesses that may generally be attributed to young men in good circumstances; and it is, therefore, a foregone conclusion that, during the time of these two gentlemen, the estate will be improved in many ways.

Mr. Satya Vrata Mukerjee, B.A. (Oxon) :—He was born in February 1887. He was educated first at the St. Xavier's School, and then at the Presidency College, Calcutta. Matriculating at the early age of thirteen, he completed the University course for B. A. Honours in English, Philosophy, and History, and proceeded to England in 1905 for further study. He joined the Exeter College, Oxford. In 1908 he graduated with high honours in Modern History. During his stay at that University, he distinguished himself in the Oxford Union Society, where he rose to high official honours. Proceeding to London, he specialised in Economics and Political Science and in 1910 sat for the I. C. S. competition. Failing by a few marks to find a place in the Indian list, he obtained, however, brilliant marks in English Literature, Mental Philosophy, Economics, and Political Science. He was forthwith selected by H. H. the Gaekwar for service on a special pay. Mr. Mukerjee himself desired an educational career, but he was placed first as a Revenue Probationer ; and for a year and a half, he went the round of the

various departments beginning with Survey. In August 1912, after passing the higher *departmental test, he was sent as Vahiwatdar, Mehsana, and for a* time was acting Naib Suba of Vyara. Since January 1914, he has been posted at Navsari. Mr. Mukerjee has found leisure to engage himself in literary journalism, and articles and reviews from his pen have found place in various Indian and English periodicals. He is now engaged in a comprehensive study of the Indian Renaissance Movement in its literary and artistic aspects.

Mr. Manishanker Gaurishanker Bhatt, B.A., LL. B. :— He was born in Bhavanagar in Sanwat year 1924. His father, Mr. Gaurishanker Jadooram, was a confidential Kamadar of the private concerns of H. H. the late Sir Takhatsinhji, G.C.S.I., LL.D., of Bhavanagar. He graduated B.A. in 1890 from the Gujarat College, Ahmedabad, and passed the LL.B. Examination in 1892. For a year he was a Dakshina Fellow attached to his own College, and in 1898 got himself enrolled as a Vakil of the Bombay High Court and practised in Ahmedabad. In course of time he extended his practice to Baroda and Kathiawar. After three years' practice he took up the appointment of Nyayadish *(Munsiff-Magistrate) of the Jetpore Taluka in Kathia*war. In 1900 he became Chief Karbhari of Mangrol, a second-class State of maritime importance in Kathiawar. In 1903 he was posted in Rajkot as a Chief Vakil (Representative in the diplomatic line) of the Bhavanagar State, attached to the Office of the Agent to the Governor in Kathiawar. In this capacity he served for nearly eight years and won the good opinion of many British Officers in the Political Department. In 1911 he was transferred to the Dhrangadhra State service, where he still continues. As the Judicial Assistant to H. H. the Rajah Saheb, he is in charge of the Huzur Court as the final Court of Appeal and Revision and is to look after the legislative and the Municipal work.

Mr. B. Jayaram, F. G. S. :— He was born on the 23rd April 1872. He is the Senior Geologist of the Mysore Government. He passed the Language Branch of the Bachelor of Arts Examination *of the Madras* University from the Central College, Bangalore, and joined the State service as an apprentice Geologist on the 18th March 1895. Before leaving the College, he received a letter from Mr. J. G. Tait, then Language Professor, and now Principal, a part of which runs as follows :—"Now that you are leaving us, I should like to tell you how much of my pleasure in my work during the last five years is due to having such a good friend among my students as you have been to me. I remember the first day we went out to have some practice together at cricket. I had been told you were a good batsman, but I did not expect to find any one who could hit harder and cleaner *than I could myself. However that is not the chief thing.* If you had been merely a cricketer, or if you had been merely regular in your attendance and painstaking in your class work as you always were, you would still have been a student and not a friend. But what I really value is this, that you have

always been ready and willing to help me in any way you could, you have never disappointed me in any way, and you have set an example of manly and honourable conduct to every one in the College. I was always sure when you were in charge of a team that they would behave themselves like gentlemen, and it was a source of pride to me to be able to point to you as a specimen of what the Central College could turn out." Mr. Jayaram is the best cricketer that the Mysore State or South India has ever produced.

Rao Bahadur Kumar Ram Singh:--This Judicial Commissioner of the Rewa State is the eldest son of Maharao Raja Banspati Singh of Kasanta, Bara, Allahabad District. He was educated in the Queen's College, Benares. The Kasanta family represents the first off-shoot of the ruling family of Rewah. Maharajah Vyaghra Dev, the first Baghel King of Rewah, migrated from Guzrat to Northern India in 681 A. H. or A. D. 1283-84, and his eldest son, Karan Dev, succeeded him to the Rewah *gadi*, while the youngest, Kandhar Dev, was the ancestor of the Raos of Kasanta, now represented by the Bara Raja in the Allahabad District. In H. E. 1186, the Emperor of Delhi conferred on Rao Vikramajit Singh, the twenty-seventh in descent from Vyaghra Dev, the title of *Raja Bahadur* and a command of 2,000 cavalry and 2,500 infantry. Maharao Raja Banspati Singh, the thirty-first in descent from Vyaghra Dev, rendered loyal service to the British Government during the Mutiny of 1857, and in recognition of it they continued to him the title of *Raja*, granted by the Moghul Emperor. The then Maharaja of Rewah conferred on him the title of *Maharao*, and two years ago the British Government made the title of *Raja* hereditary in the family. Kumar Ram Singh was highly spoken of by the British Government for his valuable services in famine times, during census operations, and in connection with the Octroi and Court of Wards. He has been a Durbaree of the Lieutenant-Governor since 1879. He has been in the service of the Rewah State since 1894, and his work in connection with famine, census, boundary, settlement, and judicial and revenue matters, was appreciated by the Durbar. He obtained the distinction of *Rao Bahadur* in 1912 and a medal and a badge in 1914. Kumar Ram Singh was the officer in charge of the camp during H.E. the Viceroy's visit to Rewah in 1914. His Excellency, who was so well pleased with the arrangements, presented him with a cigarette case as a memento and sent a letter to him through his Military Secretary, couched in laudatory terms.

Pandit Tirbhawan Nath Katju:--This gentleman is Revenue Secretary to His Highness the Nawab of Jaora. He belongs to an old faithful and loyal Kashmeri Brahmin family. He was born on the 30th September 1860. His ancestor, Mansa Ram, held a high post in the Jaipur State. In 1818, H. H. the Nawab Abdul Gafur Khan Bahadur of Joara invited Mansa Ram, as there was no able and efficient councillor at hand, and conferred on him the post of Diwan in 1820, and made over to him the Financial and Revenue

administrations, which he managed for a considerable length of time. His adopted son, Badri Nath, was at the outset made Mir Munshi to His Highness the Nawab Ghaus Muhammad Khan Bahadur, and later served as a Vakil to the Political Agent in Malwa, first in Mahidpur till 1856, and then in Agar up to 1875. For services rendered during the Mutiny of 1857, he received a grant of land and sanad from the State, and for the loyal and faithful services rendered during the minority of His Highness the Nawab Muhammad Ismail Khan Bahadur, he again obtained a grant of land. His adopted son, Tirbhawan Nath Katju, was appointed Vakil on the 14th February 1876 in his place. After serving in various capacities most faithfully and well such as Vakil, Motmid in the Boundary Settlement Question, Munsiff, Nazim Fojdari, officiating Special Judge, Chief Judge, Personal Assistant to the Minister, Revenue Assistant and Suba, he was made Revenue Secretary and Member, State Council, in May 1911, which office he still holds. For the signal and meritorious services rendered during the famine of 1899-1900, he was granted a sanad in 1902 by the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India. He has two sons, Messrs. Kailas Nath and Amar Nath. The former is a Master of Arts and of Laws (Allahabad University) and is practising as a lawyer in the Allahabad High Court; and the latter passed the B. Sc. Examination of the Allahabad University in 1914.

Captian Sardar Bhai Rane Khan Khawasi Nasheen:—One of the ancestors of the family to which this nobleman belongs, was Fateh Khan, a resident of Deopur in the Deccan. One of Fateh Khan's sons, Rane Khan, was a Jaghirdar in the time of the Peshwas. When H. H. the Maharajah Mahadji Rao Scindia Bahadur was sent by the Peshwa to reduce certain rebels to obedience, the Maharajah made Rane Khan Commander-in-Chief of the army. Soon after this, the Maharajah's encounter with Durrance took place; and, when the Maharajah was wounded, Rane Khan went to his assistance and conveyed him safely to the camp, and captured and brought Gulam Kadar and Ismail Beg. As a reward for these services, the Maharajah gave him the title of *Bhai* or Brother, and informed it to the Emperor at Delhi. In the great battle of Panipat, Rane Khan Bhai saved the Maharajah's life. The Maharajah conferred on him jaghir, *khawasi*, dignity, *paigah*, drum, palanquin, and an elephant with *amari*, and addressed him as *brother*. Bhai Rane Khan was succeeded by Bhai Hussan Khan Sahib Khawasi Nasheen. The latter's son, Rane Khan Bhai Khawasi Wale, is an Honourary Captain and A. D. C. to H. H. the Maharjah Scindia of Gwalior. He is a popular nobleman of Gwalior.

Mr. Kallanrae Jetha Bakshi:—Formerly, Junior Administrator, Porbander State, he held the following situations;—(1) English Clerk to joint Managers, Morvi State, including the work before the two special Commissions, namely, the Gamrao mortgage and Adhoi boundary; (2) Tutor at the Raj Kumar College to Kunwars, Vakhat Singhji of Ilol in Mahikantha and

Amrawala of Bilkha in Kathiawar; (3) *Shirastedar of the Huzur Court* at Mangrol; (4) Nyayadish, Mangrol; (5) Mangrol Agent before the Junagadh-Mangrol Commission; (6) State Vakil, Gondal, including preparation and conduct of the Gir case before a Special Commission, (7) First Class Vakil, Kathiawar Agency, including work before two special Commissions, namely, Mangrol-Porbandar Jama case and the Pedhala Compensation case; (8) State Agent, Junagadh, in Giras cases of Khadia-Balouch, Sokhda Sayads, etc.; (9) Judge of the Bhayati Court, Junagadh; (10) Acting Huzur Adalat Sabhasad, Junagadh; (11) Revenue Commissioner, Junagadh; (12) Special Famine Officer, Una and Babariawad under Junagadh; (13) Dewan, Idar State; (14) Dewan in charge Idar State; (15) Assistant to the Maharaj Kumar of Idar; (16) Huzur Adalat *Sabhasad*, Junagadh; (17) *Huzur Adviser, Morvi*, and (18) Junior Administrator, Porbandar. In his letter, dated 26th March 1914, the Honourable Mr. C.H.A. Hill, Member of Council, Bombay, among several other things, wrote to Mr. Kalianrae:—" I have invariably found you outspoken, straightforward, and dependable; and your capacity is so well known that it is needless for me to say anything about it. I believe you had a difficult task at Idar before I knew you in Kathiawar, and I understand that you discharged your duties there with entire satisfaction. I know what a high opinion H. H. the Thakore Sahib of Morvi had of your services and ability and how unwilling he was to spare you for Porbandar, where you had a very difficult task."

Sardar Ramrao Jadao:—This nobleman of *Dewas* in Central India belongs to Yadao Kulee race. He is Deshmukh Jahagirdar of Churlai. He is a Kshatriya Maratha by caste. His ancestors first came from Kerowlee in Rajputana to Khandesh in the time of Emperor Alamghir, and rendered meritorious services to him and obtained from him the right of Deshmukhi of Chalisgaon which the family still receives from the British Government. In commemoration of the death of three persons of the family in battle, they celebrate a great festival on Chaitra Shuddha Pratipada(the begining of their new year). *Sardar Ramrao's great-grandfather*, Rajaji Rao Deshmukh *Chalisgaonker*, left Kandesh for Baroda, where the then Gaekwar Maharajah raised him to the position of a Mankari. His daughter, Bhawani Bai Sahib, was married to Maharajah Tukoji *Rao II of Dewas Senior. Her son, Rukmangad Rao Maharaj*, conferred on Rajaji Rao in perpetuity the Jaghir of Hajipur village in Sarangpur Pargana, cash allowance, etc., for family maintenance in 1219 Malwi. Rajaji Rao's son, Sidoji Rao Mamasaheb Deshmukha, who was the maternal uncle of Rajah Rukmangad Rao Maharaj Pawar, was granted the hereditary jaghir of the Churlai village in the Dewas District in return for Hajipur in 1845 A. D. Besides this, Maharajah Jayaji Rao Sindhia of Gwalior bestowed on him the villages of Nowgaon for his maintenance. There were other cash allowances from Baroda and Indore States. Sidoji Rao's adopted son, Rayaji Rao, *alias* Raosaheb Deshmukha, married the aunt of Shrimant Malhar Rao Maharaj, the present Chief of Dewas (Junior Branch), and acted as

an Honorary Military Officer of the State. He died in 1912. Rayaji Rao left behind him two sons, Ramrao and Lakshmanrao. They received their education at the Daly College, Indore, as companions to the present Chief of Dewas (Senior Branch). They attended the Delhi Durbar with His Highness.

Major Tara Chand :—He is the Inspector-General of Police and Prisons in the Patiala State. He is the son of Lalla Girdhari Lall Kayasth and a nephew of the late Professor Y. Ram Chandra, the famous mathematician, author of the Maxima and Minima system, and of the Mutiny fame. The uncle and father both belonged to the Punjab educational department and were taken over by the Patiala Durbar to establish and create an educational department in the State as Director and Inspector. The former was also tutor to two Maharajans, Sir Mohinder Singh and Sir Rajinder Singh Sahib. Mr. Tara Chand had completed his prescribed course of Law at Agra when he was taken in service by Maharajah Sir Rajinder Singh as Court Inspector in 1894. He was soon promoted for his abilities as a Superintendent of Police and made an A. D. C. to the Maharajah with the rank of Captain of the Body-guard. As a Superintendent he was also put in charge of the C. I. D. While Superintendent at Bassi he was presented a handsome reward by the Commissioner of the Jallandur Divison in a durbar at Ludhiana for good services in a joint investigation of serious dacoity cases. He next became Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Police and was awarded a gold pencil as a memento by Lord Minto for services as the Police Officer in charge of the viceregal camp at Patiala. The present Maharajah promoted him to the rank of Major with an increase in the pay. He was transferred from the police, and was made Sub-Divisional Magistrate, and Superintendent of Central Jail at Patiala. H. H. the Maharajah Sahib was so pleased with his services that he made him Inspector-General of Police and Prisons in July 1912, which post he still holds. He is also on the staff of H. H. the Maharajah Sahib.

Mr. R. Poottannah, B.A., B.L. :—He was born in 1865 in an ancient and respectable family of Lingayats in Mysore. He commenced his education in the Royal School and was a classmate of His Highness the late Maharajah Chamarajendra Wadiyar. This school was opened especially for the young Maharajah's education after the death of his illustrious father, His Highness Krishnaraja Wadiyar, and consisted of about fifty select pupils of good birth. Mr. Poottannah stood high in the classes and got several prizes from the late Colonel G. B. Mallescn who, as guardian, supervised the education of the minor Prince. Having matriculated from this school, he continued his studies in the Central College, Bangalore, and the Presidency College, Madras, where he took his degrees in Arts and Law. In the latter institution he distinguished himself by carrying off the Arbuthnot Prize in English essay and the class prizes in his favourite subjects, Psychology and Morals, in which he stood first in the University examination. The following remarks of Dr. Duncan,

then Principal, and of the Professors of the College, show the high opinion they had of his attainments:--" A very distinguished member of my class who not unfrequently obtained full marks in the class Examinations"; "An intelligent and attentive student and excellently behaved"; "Possesses very great ability and would have stood much higher in his B.A. Examination if he had not fallen ill during the earlier portion of the Examination. He expresses himself with considerable facility and writes in a free idiomatic style. His conduct has always been excellent and he is most gentlemanly in his manners." On the death of Colonel Mackintyre who was Military Secretary to His Highness the Maharajah, affairs in the Military Department, owing to the division of the Office, were in such an unsettled condition that the late Dewan, Sir K. Seshadri Iyer, found it necessary to appoint an educated and capable officer to bring them into working order. Accordingly in November 1897, he, with the approval of Her Highness the Maharani C. I., appointed Mr. Poottannah as Personal Assistant to Colonel Desaraja Urs, Chief Commandant, Mysore State Troops. His ability, tact, and devotion to duty have helped his Chief in no small degree in the removal of abuses, in the introduction of several reforms, and in bringing a progressive Department with limited grants into its present high state of efficiency and into line with other Departments inthe Model State. Mr. Poottannah is well known on the Turf and a recognised authority in racing--his hobby. With his rare good knowledge of horses and sound judgment, he has shown how one can win big prizes with moderately priced animals, enjoying real sport untainted with bets. Though an amateur, few professionals can equal him in horse training and stable management.

Colonel Ferdinand Nissen of Baroda :-- He is of pure European parentage, father being Dane, and mother Welsh. He is forty-seven years of age. He was educated in England. His first appointment in 1886 was in the State Infantry. He was transferred to Fathesinghrao Cavalry in 1887, where he was Adjutant, Squadron Commander, and Commandant respectively. He was promoted to the present rank and Q. M. G., in 1909. Between 1887 and 1909, he acted as Infantry Adjutant twice at Dwarka in Kathiawar under the Baroda Residency, receiving high encomiums from the British Officers. He commanded the Infantry Detachment, Kadi, and Infantry Regiments at Baroda and Dhari. He commanded the escort for the Czarevitch (the present Czar) on the shikar expedition to Baroda. For many years he did the duty of A. D. C. to H. H. the Maharajah. He was selected by the Maharajah as Military Instructor to the late Prince Fathesinghrao. He was State Camp Inquiry Officer, Officer Commanding Escort, and in charge of Police arrangements, and Staff Officer at the last Delhi Durbar. Colonel Nissen, who has had varied experience, is a valuable Officer in the State, and is the most senior Officer in the Army. He acts as G. O. C., whenever occasions arise. His father commanded the Infantry Brigade at the time of his death, having put in thirty-seven years' service. His uncle became G.O. C. and retired. Colonel

Nissen's family is an old established one in Baroda, and all its members have rendered excellent service to the State. He has volunteered his services to the British Government to be utilized in the present war.

Mr. S. T. Shanmukham Pillai :—This gentleman is a Retired Deputy Collector and Dewan of Etaiyapuram. He comes of a very respectable Karakkat Vellala family of the Siva sect. He received his early education under Mr. Cruickshanks, in the Church Mission High School, Palamcottah, and then joined the Madras Christian College. From the latter institution he passed the First-in-Arts Examination in 1870. He entered Government service in 1871 and soon rose to the position of Tahsildar. He subsequently became Deputy Collector and Magistrate. His public career was long and varied, and he bore a high reputation for integrity, ability, and efficiency. He enjoyed the confidence of the Government as well as the public. When he was a Revenue Inspector, he was called on to perform the functions of an Inam Deputy Collector concerning the settlement of ready money inams in the Tinnevelly Taluq of the Madras Presidency. As a Taluq Sheristadar, he rose in the esteem of his superiors by settling amicably a knotty boundary dispute between Government and a well-known Zamindar. When he was the Collector's Head Clerk, he established in the Law Courts, by his evidence, the rights of Government as against another Zamindar in connection with an important hill-forest boundary dispute. He worked as Tahsildar in the South Arcot District for about ten years and improved irrigation in the Taluqs of Villupuram and Tindivanam. He was instrumental in sinking numerous wells with the help of State loans. Prejudicial to the interests both of the Government and the wet Ayakat holders, wet cultivation was going on unauthorizedly, on an extensive scale, in the said two Taluqs, which Mr. Pillai effectively prevented. He evinced great interest in the welfare of the ryots and was commonly known among them as "Rain Tahsildar," for some of his visits to the dry parts of the Taluqs synchronized with the fall of welcome rain. When he became Deputy Collector, he proved himself an officer of sound and independent views, and the sterling honesty of purpose which characterised his official career, secured for him praises from his superiors, both European and Indian. After retiring from Government service, he became the Receiver and Manager of the Tanjore Palace Estate. As the first Indian gentleman appointed to that important and responsible post, he held it with conspicuous ability for over two years. He then became Dewan of Etaiyapuram, which is one of the most ancient and prosperous zamindaries in the Tinnevelly District. He was for a term an elected Member of the Madras Legislative Council. He has been holding the Dewanship of Etaiyapuram with marked ability and efficiency. There are no two opinions that during his incumbency the estate will improve in all respects by leaps and bounds. He is still strong and energetic and has, therefore, many more years of useful and beneficent life before him.

Mr. Damodar Ganesh Dani, B. Sc., F. C. H., A. M. I. C. E:—He was born at Sasvad, near Poona. His early education was under the strict discipline of his father, Ganesh Wamen Dani, the Regimental School Master of the 4th Bombay Cavalry known as Poona Horse. He passed the B. Sc. Examination of the Bombay University with special distinction in 1898 and was for sometime Fellow of the College of Science, Poona. The late Jamsetjee Nasarwanjee Tata awarded him a scholarship for training in engineering at Cooper's Hill. After a very successful career there, he was elected a Fellow of Cooper's Hill and returned to India in 1902 as an Assistant Engineer in the Railway Department of the Government of India. For the first ten years he served on the construction of the Murshidabad Branch and Katihar Godagari Railways in Bengal and on the open line of the North Western Railway in the Punjab. With the renewal of activities for the railway development in the Mysore State, his services were secured by His Highness's Government from the Railway Board along with another officer. He is now Under Secretary, Mysore Railways. He is an associate of the Institution of Civil Engineers in England.

Mr. Poolla Venkanna Pantulu Garu:—This gentleman is Dewan to the Maharajah of Jeypore, Vizagapatam District. He was born on the 2nd November 1850. With a slight knowledge of English acquired in the Government Taluk School, Narsipatam, he became an Assistant Master in the same school on the 5th September 1866. He obtained a permanent post in the Principal Assistant Collector's Office as attender on Rupees seven a month on the 7th November 1870. After holding several acting appointments he, on the 7th November 1872, became a permanent Taluk Gumasta in the Tahsildar's Office, Golugonda, on Rs 15, and continued in it till the 3rd June 1887. Mr. H. G. Turner, then Agent to the Governor at Vizagapatam, considering the meritorious services rendered by Venkanna Pantulu under the guidance of the Tahsildar, and on the recommendation of Mr. O.W. Wolf Murray, then Principal Assistant Agent, Narasipatam, appointed him, on the 7th June 1887, as Deputy Tahsildar and Taluk Magistrate of Paderu on Rs. 100. In 1889 he was transferred to the unwieldy old Pattanghi Taluk, where he had to deal with the most important business of constructing roads, bridges, and bungalows all anew. In 1898 Mr. Willcock, Agent to the Governor, who found in him a very energetic and capable officer, transferred him to Jeypore, by far the heaviest and most troublesome Agency charge, where he remained for more than three years. While he was Deputy Tahsildar and Sub-Magistrate of Jeypore, he had to dispose of all the second class Magisterial cases of Nowrangpur and Malkangiri Taluks for about ten months, as the Taluk Magistrates of those Taluks were not invested with second class powers. The Maharajah of Jeypore, observing the honesty and unstained character of Mr. Venkanna Pantulu, requested the Government of Madras to lend his services to his estate, which was sanctioned for a period of three years. On the expiration

of the period, the Maharajah requested the Government again to extend the loan of his services for another triennium. They sanctioned only for a year with the alternative that he should either revert to Government service or resign it at the end of the period. As he had by that time put in a service of twenty-eight years, he requested the Government to retire him on pension. The District Medical and Sanitary Officer, before whom he appeared, found him fit for further Government service With a view to enable him to complete thirty years' service and then retire, the Maharajah, through the Agent, approached the Board of Revenue to grant him furlough for two years, but the Accountant-General, to whom the question was referred, took exception to it. He had no other alternative than to resign his post on the 9th January 1900. On the occasion of the Delhi Durbar of 1911, he received a Coronation Medal and a certificate of honour in recognition of his meritorious administration of the Jeypore *Zamindari*. Mr. Venkanna Pantulu, who has risen from the humble position of attender in a Government office to the coveted and onerous post of Dewan in a large and resourceful ancient estate, has many more years of useful and active life before him.

Mr. G. Kamakshi Rao Nimbalkar :—He belongs to an ancient and respectable Mahratta (Nimbalkar) family which settled in the Madura District between 1741—49, when Madura was under the Mahrattas. His ancestor is said to have come from the North with the Mahratta chieftains who invaded the Pandiyan Kingdom when it was under the Mahomedan rule. When the Mahrattas led by Raghoji Bhonslai took up Madura and remained there for a time, Nizam-ul-Mulk came with a large army and defeated them. The fort of Madura was given up by the Mahrattas and they, in their distress, ran away to other places, but Mr. Kamakshi Rao's forefathers settled at Uttamapalayam in the Periyakulam Taluk. His maternal grandfathers served in the 12th and 23rd Regiments and in the Light Infantry respectively, from 1808 downwards, as Jamedars and Subedars. He owns at Uttamapalayam landed property which was granted to his ancestors in 1779 under the Ijarah tenure by Mr. Hurdis, Collector of Madura The possessors of these lands were known as Karaikarars, and Karaikarars were, according to Mr. Nelson, respected by the local inhabitants. Mr. Kamakshi Rao is the only graduate of the old Saidapet Agricultural College among the Mahratta Kshatriyas. The Principal of the College, in his certificate which was the only one issued by the College authorities, says :—"Possesses practical bent of mind. Did well in agriculture and veterinary subjects." With a view to disseminate improved methods of agriculture among the rural population, he has contributed a series of articles to *The South Indian Mail*, Madura, on the reclamation and cultivation of Periyar waste lands. In conjunction with the Honourable the Zamindar of Vadagarai and Doddappanaickanur, he successfully conducted some experiments in the former's experimental farm. The President of the District Board,

Madura, in his administration Report for 1904-05, wrote as follows :—" The farm at Vadagarai in Periyakulam was worked satisfactorily, and Mr. Barbar, Government Botanist, who visited the Farm in 1905 was favourably impressed with its management." Mr. Kamakshi Rao is the author of many books, as *Hints on the Cultivation of Paddy in Tamil Districts*, with a preface by Rai Bahadur A. Ramalinga Iyer, B.A., B.C.E., Superintending Engineer, Madras; *Reclamation and Cultivation of Saline lands in the Periyar tract*; *Mudar and its Uses*; and *A Guide to South Indian Agriculture*, with an introduction by the Honourable the Zamindar of Vadagarai and Doddappanaickanur, is dedicated to H. E. Lord Carmichael, Governor of Bengal. His Excellency writes :—" I have found the book very interesting and have, I hope, learned many things from it. No doubt it is most useful to those who cultivate land near Uttamapalayam, but I think that it would be of advantage to others even outside the Madras Presidency to study it." His suggestions on the improvement of South Indian Agriculture are practical and within the easy means of ryots. The chapters devoted to the reclamation and the cultivation of waste lands (especially on the saline tracts under the Periyar Project) are interesting. He has not only a practical knowledge of the subjects he treats of but has considerable personal experience of the various methods of reclamation described by him in this book from the experiments carried on in his own field, and may, therefore, be taken as reliable The chapters on tillage and implements, manures and manuring, live stock, seeds etc., are full of useful information.

Mr. M. S. Purnalingam Pillai, B.A., L.T.:—This gentleman was born on 24th May, 1866. He belongs to a respectable family of landowners in the Tinnevelly District, Madras Presidency. He matriculated and passed the First in-Arts Examination from the Hindu College, Tinnevelly, and, having won Dr. Miller's District Scholarship for proficiency in English, joined the Madras Christian College in 1886. He took the B.A. Degree in English and Philosophy in 1888 and completed his M. A. course in English, when he was appointed Headmaster of the Hindu High School, Palamcottah. After two years, he was offered the Headmastership of the Town High School, Erode. His stay there was but for three months, but as a result of the changes so rapidly made, the numerical strength of the school doubled, and the school made a name for itself. In April 1890, he was appointed Court of Wards Tutor to the then minor Zamindar, now Rajah of Etaiyapuram. When the latter was sent to the Newington school which then badly wanted pupils, Mr. Pillai went to Madras, and the Rev. Dr. Miller gave him a place in his own College. Mr. Pillai's literary activities commenced then, and Messrs. Thompson & Co. published his school and college books. His *Analysis of English Literature* and his *Socrates and Plato and Evolutional Philosophy* for the B. A. candidates had a warm welcome. Besides his work in the College and the work of annotation and authorship, he joined the Law College and went through the three years' course in Law. He has published a series of law books for the use of the candidates for the First Examination in Law, namely, *A Digest of Roman Law*, *An*

Epitome of Jurisprudence and Maine's Ancient Law, The Indian Contract Act, with an introductory analysis of the Contract Law, and *The Specific Relief Act*, with brief notes. These law publications won the golden opinions of the Chief Justice Sir C. Arnold White and other Judges of the High Court in Madras. When the Philosophy and English Professorships in the Maharajah's College, Trivandrum, fell vacant in 1896, Drs. Miller, Cooper, Sathianadhan, and Sir S. Subramania Iyer, then a Judge of the High Court, Madras, strongly recommended Mr. Pillai's candidature for them. To quote a sentence or two from Dr. Miller's recommendation: "He has an unusually good knowledge both of English and of English Literature. He is also a good teacher and I would expect him to fill with credit the situation for which he is an applicant, if he should be appointed to it. I consider him quite as well qualified to give instruction in English as in Philosophy." In 1900 he became Professor of English in St. Michael's College, Coimbatore. He discharged his duties there most energetically and was very popular. He resigned his place in 1901 when plague broke out in the town in a virulent form. He then joined the staff of the Hindu College, Tinnevelly, and took the L. T. Degree in 1906. Since 1908 he has been Principal of Camisis College, Tinnevelly and Madras, and is preparing young ambitious Indians for the Cambridge Local Examinations with a view to qualify them for admission in the Inns of Court, etc. What the Rev. Professor Pittendrigh said of him in 1897 is indeed very true even to-day: "He possesses the somewhat rare gift of the *power of initiative* and is not lacking in energy." For eight years he was the Proprietor and Editor of *Jnana Bodhini*, a Tamil monthly, and made it the premier magazine in that vernacular. At present he is engaged in the preparation for publication of a Library of 100 *Famous Tamil Classics* with a view to popularize Tamil Literature. His scholarship in Tamil is no less than it is in English. His *Primer of Tamil Literature* in English is a pioneer work and has been received very favourably by the press and by the public. His *History of Tamil Literature* in two volumes will be a monumental work when it shall be published. His *Studies and Critiques in English Literature*, 1915, has evoked the good opinions of such famous scholars and critics as Lord Morley, Frederic Harrison, John Bailey, etc., and his latest treatise on *Ten Tamil Saints* is remarkable for the graphic sketches of the lives of the Saints and for the critical expositions of the *bhakti* and *jnana* lore enshrined in Tamil devotional lyrics.

Rai Saheb Pandit Rajkishan Koul:—He comes of a respectable Kashmiri Brahmin family. His grandfather, Pandit Bholanath, who was a mathematician, was given the task of putting the Jaora administration on a sound basis. He soon secured the confidence of his master and became one of his trusted advisers, and was granted a permanent allowance in appreciation of his services. While serving the Jaora State he was appointed Superintendent of Multhan and served the Holkar State in the Rampura Bhanpura district. He was also Superintendent of Piploda for a time.

Pandit Bhola Nath's son, Jwalanath Dar, entered the service of the Jaora State, when he was only fifteen years of age and obtained the responsible post of Serishtedar to the Minister, which post he retained till his death.

During the Mutiny of 1857, he gave his best services and advice to the State, in recognition of which the Jaora State conferred upon him a Jaghir, a Khilat, and an allowance. A portion of that Jaghir is still held by Pandit Rajkishan.

Pandit Jwalanath's family consisted of four sons and two daughters, the subject of our sketch being the fourth son. He was adopted by the widow of his maternal grandfather, Pandit Karta Kishan Koul, a good scholar and Persian poet of a respectable Kashmiri Brahmin family.

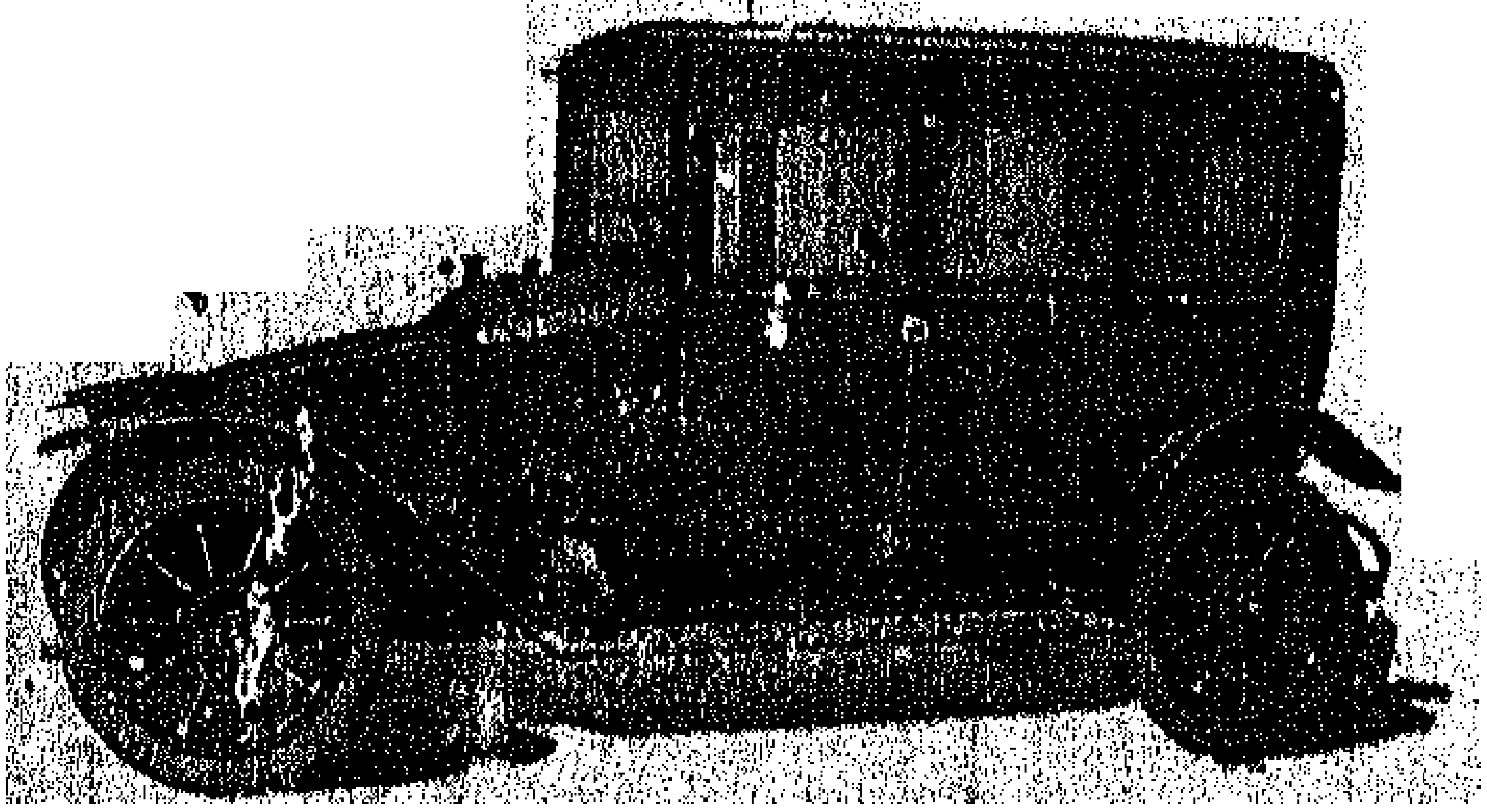
Pandit Rajkishan was born in Samwat 1916. He learned Persian and Hindi in a private school. He was appointed Agency Vakil by the late Rajah of Sailana, while his eldest brother, Pandit Kashi Nath, was Minister of the State. He creditably discharged the duties of the post for about fifteen years. After Pirohit Mohanlal's administration, he disagreed with the new Minister and resigned his post. He subsequently became Chief Magistrate at Jaora, and afterwards Personal Assistant to the Minister. His former services in the Sailana State were remembered and his services were willingly lent by the Jaora State. He was appointed Dewan of Sailana in 1898. The selection was approved of by Lieut. Colonel the Hon'ble Sir David W. K. Barr, K. C. S.I., then Agent to the Governor-General for Central India. In recognition of the meritorious services rendered by him during the Famine of 1899-1900, a Sanad, dated the 5th August 1902, under the signature of the Hon'ble the A. G. G. was conferred upon him in an open Durbar. On the occasion of the Imperial Durbar at Delhi in December 1911, which he attended with His Highness Rajah Saheb, Sir Jaswant Singhji Bahadur, K.C.I.E., of Sailana, the title of *Rai Saheb* was conferred upon him in appreciation of his merits and a Durbar Medal was also given him. The title of Rai Saheb with the Sanad was presented by the Hon'ble Mr. O. Dwyer, C. S. I., the Agent to the Governor-General for Central India, Indore. Since then he has performed his duties creditably enjoying the confidence of His Highness the Rajah Saheb. His merits have also been appreciated by the Political Agent and the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General for Central India.

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